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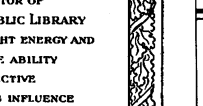

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Royal Sussex regt.

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THE BATTLE OF QUEBEC.

A View of the Taking of Quebec, September 13th, 1759. Showing the manner of the debarking of the English Forces and of the resolute scrambling of the Light Infantry up a woody precipice to dislodge the Captain's post which defended a small entrenched path through which the troops were to pass. Also a view of the Signal Victory obtained over the French regulars, Canadians and Indians which produced the surrender of Quebec. (*From an old print.*)

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A SHORT HISTORY

OF THE

ROYAL SUSSEX REGIMENT

(35th FOOT—107th FOOT),

1701—1926.

With brief particulars of the part taken in the Great War by the various Battalions of the Regiment.

PRINTED BY GALE & POLDEN, LTD.,
WELLINGTON WORKS, ALDERSHOT.

1927

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"NOTHING SUCCEEDS LIKE SUSSEX."

Old Regimental Motto.

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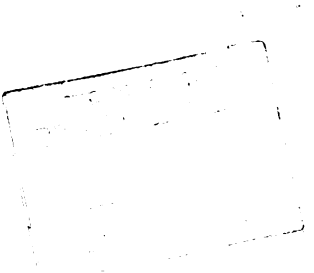

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MEDAL STRUCK TO COMMEMORATE THE CAPTURE OF LOUISBOURG, 1758.

MEDAL STRUCK TO COMMEMORATE THE CAPTURE OF QUEBEC, 1759.

Commemoration medals were not "war medals," but were struck to commemorate certain outstanding events. They were not worn.

"MAIDA" MEDAL.

A war medal, but presented only to General and Commanding Officers.

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BATTLE HONOURS.

23 BATTALIONS.

REGIMENTAL COLOUR.

THE WHITE (ROUSSILLON) PLUME).

" Gibraltar, 1704-5 "—" Louisburg "—" Quebec, 1759 "—" Martinique, 1762 "—" Havannah "—" St. Lucia, 1778 "—" Maida "—" Egypt, 1882 "—" Abu Klea "—" Nile, 1884-85"—" South Africa, 1900-02 "—" Afghanistan, 1919."

KING'S COLOUR.

" Retreat from Mons "—" Marne 1914, '18 "—" Ypres, 1914, '17, '18 "—" Somme, 1916, '18 "—" Pilckem "—" Hindenburg Line "—" Italy, 1917-18 "—" Gallipoli, 1915 "—" Palestine, 1917-18 "—" N.W. Frontier India, 1915, 1916-17."

OTHER BATTLE HONOURS

WHICH ARE NOT ON THE COLOURS.

" Mons "—" Aisne, 1914 "—" Gheluvelt "—" Nonne Bosschen " —" Givenchy, 1914 "—" Aubers "—" Loos "—" Albert, 1916, '18 "—" Bazentin "—" Delville Wood "—" Pozières "—" Flers-Courcelette "—" Morval "—" Thiepval "—" Le Transloy "—" Ancre Heights "—" Ancre, 1916, '18 "—" Arras, 1917, '18 " —" Vimy, 1917 "—" Scarpe, 1917 "—" Arleux "—" Messines, 1917 "—" Langemarck, 1917 "—" Menin Road "—" Polygon Wood "—" Broodseinde "—" Poelcappelle "—" Passchendaele " " Cambrai, 1917, '18 "—" St. Quentin "—" Bapaume, 1918 "— " Rosières "—" Avre " — " Lys " — " Kemmel " — " Scherpenberg " — " Soissonnais Ourcq " — " Amiens " — " Drocourt-Quéant "—" Epéhy "—" St. Quentin Canal "—" Beaurevoir " —" Courtrai "—" Selle "—" Sambre "—" France and Flanders, 1914-18 "—" Piave "—" Vittorio Veneto "—" Suvla "—" Landing at Suvla " — " Scimitar Hill " — " Rumani " — " Egypt, 1915-17 " — " Gaza " — " El Mughar " — " Jerusalem " — " Jericho "—" Tell 'Asur "—" Murman, 1918-19."

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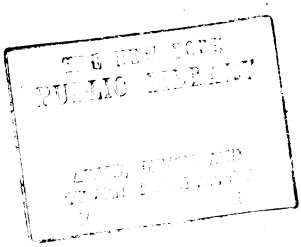
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NEW COLOURS AWAITING PRESENTATION
TO 1st BATTALION.

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THE COLOURS—AND WHAT THEY MEAN.

THE Colours are the symbol and emblem of that loyalty, duty and affection we owe to our King—our Country and our Regiment.

The King's Colour is the symbol of the Sovereign, and the Regimental Colour is the emblem of the Soul of the Regiment.

The Colours stand for the fair name of the Regiment, and for the glorious deeds of those who have served with it in the past. It is the solemn duty of all to strive always to add to the good name of the Regiment, and to avoid doing anything which might in any way tarnish its hard-earned laurels.

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FOREWORD.

THE following brief history of the Royal Sussex Regiment has been compiled, at the request of the Officers Commanding the 1st and 2nd Battalions, primarily for the purpose of placing before young soldiers as much as can be given, in the short space available, of the glorious history of the Royal Sussex Regiment, whose traditions and reputation it is their solemn duty to carry on untarnished and hand down, if possible, enhanced.

It is hoped that it may prove also of interest to many who have served in the Regiment in the past, and possibly to their friends.

Considerations of space have made it necessary to restrict somewhat severely the account of the part taken in the Great War by the twenty-three battalions of the Regiment that served through that momentous struggle. Again, from considerations of space, it has been deemed wise to eliminate, as far as possible, the mention of names except those of recipients of the V.C.

Also, it has been found possible only to include a few of the hundreds of complimentary letters and orders of Higher Authorities which have been received from time to time in appreciation of the services of various Battalions of the Regiment.

It is hoped that ere long some fit person will consent to bring up to date the late Captain Richard Trimen's "Memoir of the 35th Foot," long out of print, which will remain for all time the foundation of any history of the Royal Sussex Regiment.

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It is desired to express our deep indebtedness to the late Captain Trimen, who, at the ripe old age of 84, revised the earlier part of this small history, and to several other officers who have kindly given their assistance.

The Royal Sussex Calendar is founded upon one produced by the 2nd Battalion in 1921.

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THE BATTLE OF QUEBEC ... ... *Frontispiece*

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A SHORT HISTORY

OF THE

ROYAL SUSSEX REGIMENT

In 1881 the Royal Sussex Regiment was formed out of the 35th and 107th Foot, the Royal Sussex Light Infantry Militia, the 1st and 2nd Sussex Rifle Volunteers, and the Cinque Ports Rifle Volunteers.

The 35th and 107th Foot became respectively the 1st and 2nd Battalions of the Royal Sussex Regiment, involving the abolition of the old numbers. The Royal Sussex Light Infantry Militia became the 3rd (Militia) Battalion, the 1st and 2nd Sussex Rifle Volunteers became respectively the 1st and 2nd (Volunteer) Battalions, and the Cinque Ports Rifle Volunteers became the Cinque Ports Battalion of the Regiment.

By later changes of organization the 2nd (Volunteer) Battalion became the 4th (Territorial) Battalion, and the Cinque Ports became the 5th (Cinque Ports) Battalion of the Regiment. The old 1st (Volunteer) Battalion disappeared under the reorganization scheme in 1908. The 6th (Cyclist) Battalion of Territorials was raised in 1912.

The 35th Regiment of Foot was raised in Belfast **1701**
in June, 1701, by the 3rd Earl of Donegall. Its first uniform consisted of an easy fitting red coat, faced and lined with orange, a flapped red sleeveless waistcoat, black breeches, and long black gaiters, the head-dress being a laced black felt hat.

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The officers carried half-pikes, the sergeants halberds, and the men muskets, with plug bayonets and short swords. The grenadiers of the Regiment carried firelocks instead of muskets and a pouch of hand grenades, an explosive missile that was, considering its crude manufacture, singularly effective in attack and defence.

The King took a special interest in the Regiment on its raising, and as a mark of his Royal favour granted it the orange facings, which distinguished the Regiment for many years.

1702 The Regiment's first tour of active service was as Marines, for it was present on board the fleet which was despatched to Spain in 1702 to attack the French and Spanish ships at Cadiz. The expedition proved successful, a number of treasure ships being captured. The same year the Regiment was sent to the West Indies, where it saw its first active service on land against the French, losing its Lieutenant-Colonel, killed in action. In two months it lost seven officers and many men from yellow fever. The Regiment was recalled later in the year to Gibraltar as part of the relieving force when the place was besieged by the French and Spanish sea and land forces, a siege that was maintained unavailingly for over two years.

After the siege had been raised, the Regiment was sent to Catalonia to join the Earl of Peterborough's Army, and fought at the Capture and subsequent Defence of Barcelona. In the subsequent operations the Regiment was commended for conspicuous bravery, and at the Defence of Fort Montjuick,
1706 April 10th, 1706, it lost its gallant Commanding Officer, the Earl of Donegall, who fell fighting at the head of his men. The following letter was sent by Charles, King of Spain, to Queen Anne of England, respecting the gallant behaviour of the 35th Regiment at Fort Montjuick and the death of the Earl of Donegall:—

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" Madam, my Sister,—It is always with the utmost satisfaction that I do justice to those worthy persons who signalized themselves by their conduct and valour in your Majesty's service and in mine. My Lord Donegall was remarkably so when alive, and his brave Regiment, the 35th Foot, and particularly on the last siege of my City of Barcelona, both in his quickness in succouring it from Gerona, and the long valiant defence he and his brave Regiment made in Fort Montjuick when he lost his life in the assault. It is in great measure due to him and his gallant regiment that I am indebted for the preservation of that capital, and it may be for all the possessions I now hold in Spain." Such a Royal testimonial of British valour is almost unique in military history.

Lord Donegall was succeeded in command by Brig.-General Richard Gorges, and consequently, after the custom of those days, the Regiment was known as " Gorges' Regiment."

The Regiment continued to serve in Spain till 1707, when, at the Battle of Almanza, it was almost destroyed. The remnant was sent home and the Regiment reorganized and sent to Ireland in 1709. **1707**

In 1717 Colonel Charles Otway was appointed to command *vice* Brig.-General Gorges, and the Regiment consequently became " Otway's Regiment." In 1719 the Regiment went from Ireland to Minorca, returning in 1725 to Ireland, where it served without a break till 1756.

In 1751 all regiments in the Army received numbers, and Otway's Regiment became the 35th Foot. The same Royal Warrant that gave regiments their numbers settled their colours. **1751**

The 35th Foot carried first or King's Colour, The Great Union; second or Regiment's Colour, orange silk, with union in upper canton; number of Regiment in centre of colour in gold Roman characters within a wreath of roses and thistles on the same stalk.

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1756 Early in 1756 the Regiment returned to England, and in April embarked at Plymouth for service in North America, and landed at the end of June at Albany on the Hudson River. The Regiment, under Lieut.-Colonel George Monro, had some heavy fighting against the French and Red Indians
1757 on the Canadian Frontier in 1756-7. It took part in the desperate defence of Fort William Henry on the Canadian Lakes. When the ammunition was exhausted and the defences untenable the garrison was forced to surrender to the French Commander Montcalm, whose subsequent heartless conduct will for ever remain a blot on his name. He had agreed to let the garrison march out with the honours of war, but when the troops surrendered violated his pledge and made them march out without arms, with their wives and families, and left them to the mercy of his Red Indian Allies. A dreadful massacre followed, in which the defenceless troops suffered severely. But retribution followed quickly,
1758 for the French were totally routed at Louisburg, their great naval arsenal in America, which was captured. In this battle the Regiment fought with grim determination, the memory of the treacherous massacre fresh in their minds.

1759 The following year the Regiment, reinforced by drafts from England, fought with great distinction at the Battle and Capture of Quebec, where Montcalm was killed and the surrender of Fort William fully avenged. In that historic battle the 35th, on the extreme right of the line, led by their gallant Colonel, Henry Fletcher, met and totally defeated the famous French Regiment, "The Royal Roussillon." In recognition of the Regiment's fine discipline in that battle authority was given for it

---

DEATH OF GENERAL WOLFE.

Major-General James Wolfe was killed at the Battle of Quebec, September 13th, 1759. Tradition has it that the soldier shown hatless on the right of the picture was a grenadier of the 35th. Colour is lent to this tradition by the fact that the plan of the battle shows that Wolfe was hit directly opposite the part of the French line held by Roussillon Regiment. Also, a contemporary oil painting in the possession of the editor shows this soldier wearing orange facings. (*From an old print engraved from the oil painting by Sir Benjamin West, P.R.A.*)

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DEATH OF GENERAL WOLFE AT BATTLE OF QUEBEC.

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to wear the white plume of the Royal Roussillon Regiment. The 35th also took from this regiment their colours, which bore the French lilies of gold, and from this originated the nickname of "The Orange Lilies." Tradition has it that the quick step of the 35th, now the Regimental March of the 1st Battalion, was adopted from the Royal Roussillon Regiment, but efforts to substantiate this tradition have failed up to the present.

The white plume above-mentioned the 35th bore on their hats for forty years afterwards, and it is commemorated in the badge now worn by the Regiment.

At this period the uniform of the Regiment consisted of a red coat faced and lined with orange and ornamented with lace, having an orange stripe, white waistcoats and breeches, and black hats and black gaiters.

After taking part in the subsequent operations **1761**
which freed Canada permanently from the French rule, the Regiment proceeded in 1761 to the West Indies, where, still commanded by Colonel Fletcher, it saw much active service in the Capture of St. Vincent, Martinique, Cuba, and Havana. It returned to England in 1765, having suffered greatly from war and disease.

On the outbreak of the American War of **1775**
Independence, the Regiment again crossed the Atlantic in 1775, and landed at Boston under Lieut.-Colonel Robert Carr, who was killed next year at the Battle of White Plains.

The Regiment were actively engaged in most of the battles of the war. At Bunker's Hill, just outside Boston, the American Colonists were strongly posted on the hill, and a British force, including the 35th Foot, was sent under General Howe to capture the position. The British advanced up the hill, but were driven back. A second time they advanced, but were again repulsed. General Howe led them forward a third time, and with fixed

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bayonets they drove the Colonists from their position. In this action only five of the Grenadier Company and only one or two of the Light Company were unwounded.

After sharing in the Capture of St. Lucia in 1778, and a tour of service in the West Indies, the Regiment returned to England in 1785.

In 1782 County titles had been conferred on all Regiments of the Line, and the 35th became the Dorsetshire Regiment.

After nine years spent at home, including two years in Scotland, the only visit ever paid by the Regiment to that country, another trip to the West Indies followed.

1794 Embarking at Cork, the Regiment landed at Barbadoes in 1794, taking part later in the same year in the second Capture of Martinique and St. Lucia, and the Capture of Guadaloupe and Fort Matilda. At Guadaloupe the battalion suffered very heavy losses in officers and men.

1795 In 1795 Lieut.-Colonel Colin Campbell retired from the Command of the 35th Foot. His portrait, reproduced from a print in the possession of the Officers' Mess of the Regimental Depot, is given opposite, as it shows Major Campbell, as he was at the time the portrait was taken, wearing a hat in which is presumably the Roussillon plume of the pattern then worn. Rather it looks as if there were two plumes. At all events it is, as far as can be seen, somewhat different to what it is believed was the pattern of the plume worn by the French Royal Roussillon Regiment.

This Colonel Campbell had at the time of his retirement served for forty-two years in the 35th. He was a brave and good officer, but rather eccentric at times. For instance, he knocked over the regimental clerk with a bundle of papers one day for spelling "His Royal Highness" with a small "h." He served throughout the American Campaigns of 1758-59-60, being present at the

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LIEUT.-COLONEL COLIN CAMPBELL.
(About 1795.) ***(From an old print.)***

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Capture of Louisburg and the Battle of Quebec. He was also at the Capture of Martinique and severely wounded and taken prisoner. They wanted to dress his wound, but he would allow no rebel to touch it, so that it remained with the blood merely staunched until his wife, who was on board ship, landed and joined him in his state of captivity. She soon got him exchanged,but his arm was useless for the rest of his life.

While on active service in America it is said that he received an injury which totally altered the original form of the most prominent feature of his countenance, having received a blow in the face with a musket from a soldier whom he had been reprimanding. The man was tried by court martial and condemned to be shot, but Campbell stayed the execution of the sentence, and subsequently applied for and obtained a free pardon for the offender.

A short spell of service at Gibraltar followed in 1795, at the end of which year the Battalion returned home, and was quartered at various places in England until 1799. In this year a 2nd Battalion was raised by Volunteers from the Sussex Militia, chiefly by the efforts of Major-General Lennox, the Colonel-Commandant. **1795–99**

Both battalions embarked for Holland to join the army under Lieut.-General Sir Ralph Abercrombie, and took part in the Battles of Bergen, Helder and Equivert. In this short campaign 10 officers and upwards of 400 men were killed and wounded. At the end of the year both battalions returned to England.

In 1800 both battalions were engaged in the Blockade of Malta, and when that Island was captured the first British flag to be hoisted from the ramparts of Valletta was the King's Colour of the 35th Foot. This Colour is still preserved in the Armoury of the Governor's Palace at Valletta. It is to be hoped that it may be possible to secure the return of this trophy to take its proper place in St. George's Chapel in Chichester Cathedral. **1800**

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1801 In 1801 the 2nd Battalion of the 35th Foot returned to England, and was disbanded next year, only to be reformed in 1805.

1804 In 1804 the Territorial title of the Regiment was changed from "The Dorsetshire" to "The Sussex," at the request of the Colonel, Major-General Charles Lennox, afterwards 4th Duke of Richmond, who the previous year had been appointed Colonel of the Regiment on the death of General H. Fletcher, who had served for forty-eight years in the Regiment.

1805 In 1805 the Regiment formed part of a force under Lieut.-General James Craig, C.B., sent to Italy to protect the Kingdom of Naples from the French.

1806 In 1806 the 1st Battalion took part in the expedition to Calabria, and distinguished itself particularly at the Battle of Maida.

The Maida Campaign.

Napoleon Buonaparte having made his brother Joseph King of Naples, the latter possessed himself of the main part of that kingdom by means of a successful invasion. To support the Neapolitan forces who were holding out in the extreme south of Calabria, the British Government assembled an army in Sicily, under Major-General Sir John Stuart. This force, numbering about 5,000 men of all arms, embarked early on June 26th, 1806, and disembarked at St. Euphemia on June 30th/July 1st. Bad weather delayed the landing of stores and supplies, and the delay robbed the expedition of any chance of a surprise, and the French had time to concentrate an army of some 5,000 to 6,000 men. Sir John Stuart, having made the necessary arrangements for an attack, put his army in motion at day-

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BATTLE OF MAIDA.

A key to this print in the Officers' Mess at the Depot shows that the mounted officer in the right centre of the picture, who appears to be looking through a telescope is Colonel Oswald, the Commanding Officer of the 35th, who at Maida was in command of a Brigade. The mounted officer near the right edge of the picture, with his left arm raised, is Major Robinson of the 35th, who was in command of the detachment of the Regiment who took part in this expedition—the Grenadier and Light Companies and 150 picked men. (*From an engraving by Cardon after Loutherbourg.*

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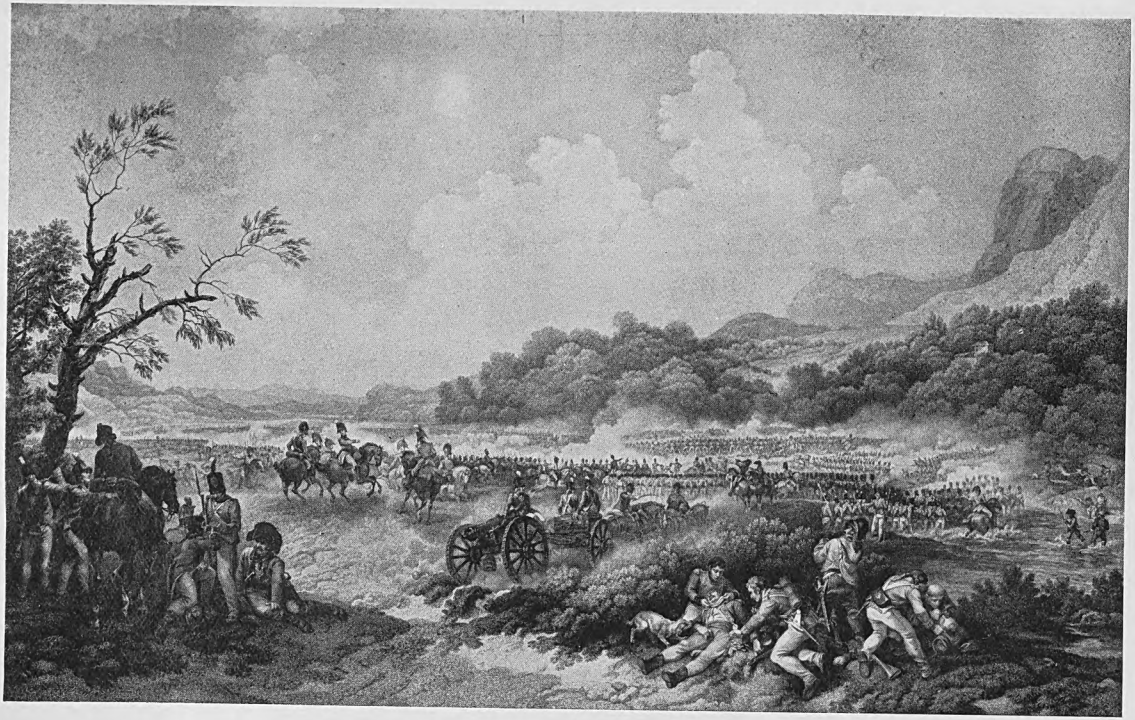

BATTLE OF MAIDA, JULY 4th, 1806.

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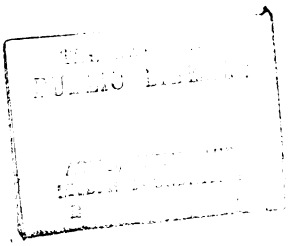

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break on July 4th, the columns passing from St. Euphemia six miles along the seashore, and changed direction to the left when they came parallel to the wooded slopes on which the French had taken up their position, under General Regnier, with the River Amato running along their front—fordable but with marshy banks. At 9 a.m. the battle began with the desultory firing by our flanks driving in the French sharp-shooters. The Light Brigade was the advanced corps of the British. Two six-pounders pushed on in front fired several rounds with considerable effect upon the French columns which, having quitted their position, were deploying in the plain.

The Light Company of the 20th, with a few Corsican Rangers thrown out some distance in front, were suddenly attacked by a party detached from the enemy's left. On the first discharge of musketry the commander of the Light Company was killed, but his party being supported immediately by the flankers of the 35th, the enemy was dispersed. Scarce had these detachments time to rejoin the Light Brigade, when the French left wing, chiefly composed of their 1st Light Infantry, rapidly advanced; reserving their fire, the Light Brigade pressed forward to meet them. The French, disconcerted by this unexpected movement, fired three or four volleys. The Light Brigade did not return their fire until they came within a short distance of their opponents, and then, rushing forward with the bayonet, overthrew them completely. The few who escaped gained the woods on the further bank of the Amato.

The fire soon became general, extending from the 78th and 81st Regiments to the Grenadier Battalion and the 27th. A strong corps, consisting of cavalry and riflemen, menacing to turn the left wing, Brig.-General Oswald, with the 58th and Watteville's Regiment, posted in rear of the Light Brigade, was ordered to the threatened point. At this crisis the

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20th Regiment, running up, frustrated the French design. Repulsed on every side, they retreated towards Catanzaro, fighting rear-guard actions on the hills at the end of the plain.

The French losses on this day amounted to nearly the original strength of the British.

The British, in a short month's campaign, finished off all the French forces in the south of Calabria and then returned to Sicily, where the 1st Battalion of the 35th were joined by a recently re-raised 2nd Battalion.

A Gold medal with bar for "Maida"* was issued to Senior Officers—as for other battles in the early years of the nineteenth century—but no medal had been bestowed upon the Junior ranks nor on the rank and file. There was considerable feeling in the matter towards the middle of the century, and no little discussion in the Houses of Parliament. To rectify the omission a "General Service Medal" was sanctioned by H.M. Queen Victoria in 1847, and issued in the following year to all surviving officers and men who had served in any of the battles between 1801 and 1814—with a bar for each battle—including "Maida." The Duke of Richmond was almost entirely responsible for obtaining the grant of this medal, and the officers interested in the grant of it presented him with a piece of plate to the value of fifteen hundred guineas as a mark of their appreciation of his efforts on their behalf.

1807 Both battalions served with the Expedition to Egypt in 1807, and took part in the Capture of Alexandria, Siege of Rosetta, and Battle of El Hamet. In this expedition the Regiment lost 5 officers killed, 8 wounded, and 63 other ranks killed and 206 wounded. Both battalions returned to Italy. The 2nd Battalion returned home in 1808 to Chichester.

1809–15 In 1809 the 1st Battalion took part in the expedition under Brig.-General John Oswald (Lieutenant-Colonel of the Regiment) for the reduction of the

* See Illustration opposite page iii.

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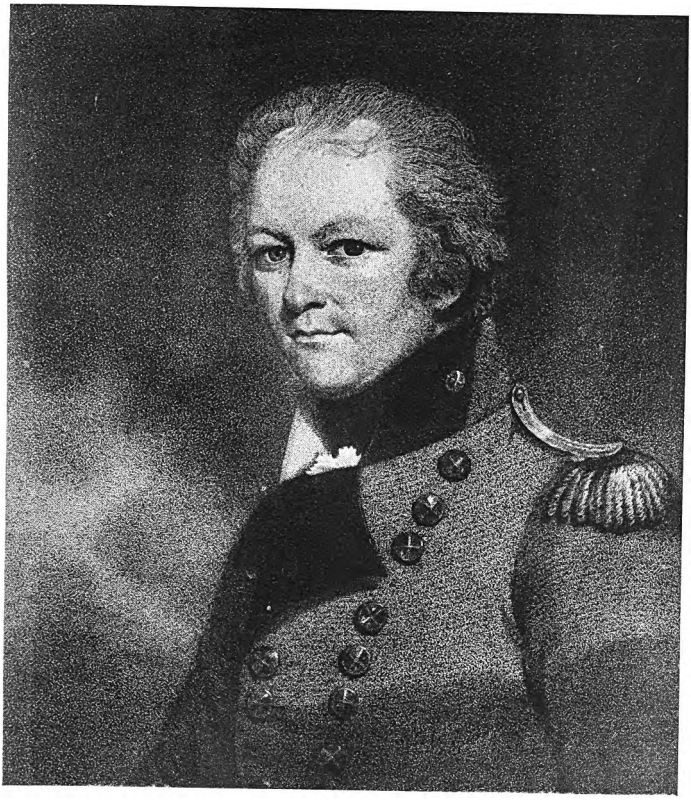

CHARLES GORDON LENNOX, K.G., 4th DUKE OF RICHMOND AND LENNOX.

Charles Gordon Lennox, K.G., 4th Duke of Richmond and Lennox, exchanged into the 35th Foot as a Captain from the Coldstream Guards in 1790. He is said to have been extremely popular in his new regiment, taking a great interest in his men, even playing cricket with them, a thing unheard of in those days. He was appointed A.D.C. to the King on his promotion to Colonel in 1795, and promoted Major-General in 1798, becoming Colonel-in-Chief of the 35th in 1808. In 1807 he was appointed Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, resigning that post in 1813, when he took up his residence at Brussels. At Waterloo he was on the staff of the Duke of Wellington; while it was his Duchess who gave the famous ball on the eve of the battle—so well known from Byron's resounding verses beginning, "There was a sound of revelry by night" ("Childe Harold," Canto III). In 1818 he was appointed Governor-General of Canada, where he died next year of hydrophobia, the result of a bite from a tame fox.

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Ionian Islands, where it remained till 1815, carrying out various other small expeditions against the French, including the Capture of Ischia, Procida, Lissa, Cephalonia, Zante, Santa Maura, and other places.

Two companies of the 1st Battalion joined the Austrian Army, under Count Nugent, at Trieste, and served with it through the winter campaign in Northern Italy, afterwards crossing the Apennines, and taking part in the Siege and Capture of Genoa, April, 1814.

In 1809 the 2nd Battalion had formed part of the force sent to Holland under the Earl of Chatham, and was present at the investment and Capture of Flushing (45 killed and wounded, the Light Company losing 38). It returned home at the end of the year, and embarked again for Flanders at the end of 1813, and next year formed part of the force sent to Holland under General Thomas Graham, and was present at the Siege of Antwerp and Attack on Bergen-op-Zoom.

The 2nd Battalion was at Ostend at the time of Napoleon's return from Elba. At the Battle of Waterloo it formed part of Major-General Johnstone's Brigade in reserve at Hal, where it was posted on the right flank of the British Army to hold in check a considerable force of the enemy making for Huy. The Battalion was not actually engaged in the battle, but all ranks present received the Waterloo medal. A few days later it took part in the Capture of Cambrai. The Battalion entered Paris with the British Army of Occupation, and was encamped in the Bois de Boulogne, taking part in the reviews before the Allied Sovereigns. The 2nd Battalion returned to England in 1815, proceeding to Ireland in 1817, where it was disbanded.

The scattered companies of the 1st Battalion at Genoa, Ponza, and in the Ionian Islands were assembled at Palermo in 1815, and when the British Troops were finally withdrawn from Italy,

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1816, the Battalion was concentrated at Corfu, where it remained until 1817, when it returned to England (after seventeen years' service in the Mediterranean) and was quartered at Brighton.

1819 In 1819 Lieut.-General Sir John Oswald, K.C.B., was appointed Colonel of the Regiment on the death of the Duke of Richmond, who had been thirty-two years in the Regiment.

1832 After a brief spell of home service the Battalion embarked for the West Indies at the end of 1820, where it remained till 1832. In a terrible hurricane which devastated the Island of Barbadoes in 1831 all ranks helped greatly in rendering assistance to the terror-stricken inhabitants, and in recognition the Governor, Sir James Lyon, conveyed to the Battalion the sincere thanks of the House of Assembly, and also forwarded to the home Government an expression of appreciation of the services rendered by all ranks of the Battalion.

In 1832 the Battalion returned to England, and shortly after His Majesty King William IV was graciously pleased to direct that the Regiment should bear the appellation of "Royal." The facings were consequently changed to Royal blue, and the officers bore a scarlet band on their forage caps. Thus disappeared the old orange facings which for 130 years had distinguished the Regiment. When shakos were abolished in 1880 a patch of scarlet cloth was placed under the helmet plate to perpetuate the scarlet band.

1837–52 In 1837 the Battalion went to Mauritius, where it remained till 1848, when it returned to England,

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SIR JOHN OSWALD.

Joined the 35th Foot in 1791. Appointed Lieutenant-Colonel 1797. At the Battle of Maida he was in command of a Brigade, and in the conquest of the Ionian Islands he was in command of the expedition. He served in the Peninsular War, commanding a Division at the Battle of Vittoria. The illustration shows him in the full dress of a Lieutenant-General, wearing round his neck a ribbon bearing the Gold Medal for the Peninsular War issued only to General Officers. He is also wearing the Maida Gold Medal issued to Commanding Officers.

Sir John Oswald was for some years Governor of the Ionian Islands. He was appointed Colonel of the Regiment in 1819, and died in 1840. His portrait here given is from a photograph of an oil painting in possession of his grandson, Colonel St. C. Oswald, late 3rd Hussars, of Dunnikier House, Fife, by whose kind permission it is reproduced here.

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SIR JOHN OSWALD, K.C.B., G.C.M.G.

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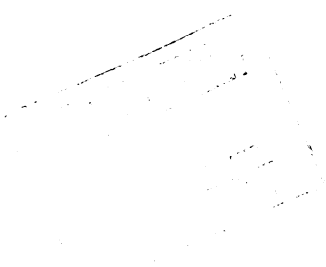

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proceeding later in the same year to Ireland, returning thence to England in 1852.

In 1854 the 35th began its first tour of service in India, being stationed at Calcutta until February, 1856, when it was sent to Moulmein in Burma, in which country it saw a good deal of service in continual skirmishes against rebel Karens. **1854–56**

It was about this period, namely in 1853, that there was raised at Chinsurah the Honourable East India Company's 3rd Bengal European Regiment, later on to become the 107th Foot.

On the outbreak of the Indian Mutiny in May, 1857, the 35th Foot were moved from Burma to Calcutta, where it at once rendered excellent service in helping to disarm four regiments of native infantry at Barrackpore and two others at Berhampore, and was engaged continuously till the end of the year on similar work of watching and disarming Sepoy regiments. **1857-59**

In 1858 the 35th was sent up country, and experienced great hardships in the operations against the Sepoy forces. During this time two companies were caught in an ambush and suffered heavy loss.

The 35th subsequently did good service under Brig.-General Douglas in Shahabad in pursuit of Koer Singh. From April to November it was employed in clearing the rebels from the Judgespore Jungle, when it won the highest credit for courage and endurance. Those who have served in India will appreciate the tough fibre of which their predecessors of the Mutiny days must have been composed, when it is recollected that they marched and fought at all seasons of the year in scarlet uniforms with high collars, and that helmets were then unknown, a peaked cap being the only head wear.

The 3rd Bengal Europeans rendered equally valuable service in and around Agra, taking part in many engagements against the rebels.

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In 1859 the 35th was selected to form part of the escort for Lord Canning, Governor-General of India, on his triumphal progress to Cawnpore, Lucknow, Agra, Meerut, Delhi, etc. On December 26th new colours were presented to the 35th by Lady Canning at a brilliant parade of the troops, comprising the escort and the large garrison of Meerut, where the ceremony took place. After the presentation, Lord Canning took the opportunity of thanking the Regiment for the example of high discipline and zeal it had exhibited during the trying times of the Mutiny, and for the manner in which they had maintained and enhanced in action and in camp, the high reputation of the Regiment, and the credit of the British Army. The Colours presented on this occasion are those still (1927) carried by the 1st Battalion, having thus continued in use for sixty-eight years.

1861 In 1861 the 3rd Bengal European Regiment, of the Honourable East India Company's Service, was reorganized and brought into the British Army under the title of the 107th (Bengal Infantry) Regiment. At the same time all other European regiments of the Honourable East India Company's Service were absorbed into the British Army under numbers from 101st—109th, both inclusive.

1862 In 1862, in accordance with orders, the flank companies of the Regiment were broken up. The Grenadier Company had been in existence since the formation of the Regiment, the Light Company being raised in 1745.

1863 In 1863 took place the first connection of the 35th with the 107th. On volunteers being called for in India for men to join the 107th Foot at Lucknow, 78 men of the 35th so volunteered.

In January, 1868, the 35th returned to England.

1873 In 1873 the 35th Foot and the 107th (Bengal European) Regiment became linked, and a depot common to both regiments was formed at Chichester.

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GRENADIER, 1750.

BATTALION
COMPANY MAN, 1790.

PRIVATE, 1879.

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TILDEN FOUNDATIONS
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In 1875 the 107th came to England for the first time, and in the same year the 35th once again embarked for service in the West Indies. It was during this tour of service that the 35th were able to render such valuable services during a devastating earthquake that it received the thanks of the Governor and Legislature of Barbadoes. At the same time the inhabitants made a handsome presentation of silver plate to the officers in commemoration of the services of the Battalion. **1875**

Formation of The Royal Sussex Regiment as at Present Constituted.

In 1881 the numbers hitherto borne by regiments were discontinued, and the 35th Foot became the 1st Battalion and the 107th the 2nd Battalion of the Royal Sussex Regiment, and official permission was granted for a badge consisting of the Maltese Cross (the badge of the 107th), with Roussillon plume, to be worn on collar of tunic and appointments of officers and men of the Regiment. **1881**

The Egyptian War, 1881-82.

On the outbreak of the Egyptian War of 1881-82 the 1st Battalion was quartered with half-battalion at Malta and half-battalion with headquarters at Cyprus, the 2nd Battalion being in Ireland.

The wing of the 1st Battalion from Malta was landed at Alexandria after the bombardment, and took part in the operations round that city. The wing from Cyprus landed at Ismailia in September. Later in the year the Battalion moved to Cairo, where it was employed in restoring order and protecting the city during the early days of the occupation. In the meantime the 2nd Battalion had been brought out from Ireland to Malta, arriving there on August 1st, 1882, being made up to 1,000 strong. It was this young Battalion that was the parent of the magnificent body of men which, in 1888, took part in the Black Mountain Expedition, and was the admiration of all who saw it.

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The Nile Expedition, 1884-85.

Early in 1884 a detachment of the 1st Battalion took part with mounted infantry in operations around Suakin, including the actions of El Teb and Tamai. Later in the year, General Charles Gordon having been cut off and besieged in Khartoum by the Dervish forces, an expedition for his relief was despatched under Lord Wolseley. The 1st Battalion was moved up the Nile in boats and became the pioneers of the Nile Expedition, despatched under General Lord Wolseley for the relief of Khartoum. It formed part of the Desert Column under Sir Herbert Stewart on its march from Korti to Metemneh. The actions of Abu Klea (5 men killed, 26 wounded), El Gubat and Metemneh followed.

The Battle of Abu Klea, which appears on the Colours, was the chief fight in this expedition. The column was moving on Abu Klea wells and found there a strong force of Dervishes. A square was formed with the transport in the centre. The Dervishes charged the square and got in on one side and caused heavy losses. After some hard fighting the square was re-formed and the Dervishes driven off.

A small detachment of the 1st Battalion (twenty non-commissioned officers and men), under Captain Trafford, proceeded in steamers with Sir Charles Wilson from Metemneh to Khartoum in a final dash to try to save that city and rescue General Gordon, but arrived in sight of the place only to find that the city had fallen, and consequently that the expedition was too late to achieve its object. It is of interest to recall that Captain Trafford and his men wore scarlet serges lent to them by the Guards and others of the Camel Corps, as the Royal Sussex had only "khaki" clothing.

The 2nd Battalion moved to Egypt in January, 1885, and after being stationed in Cairo for nearly a year, it proceeded to India, arriving at Bombay on

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December 30th, 1885. On arrival it moved direct to Rawal Pindi.

The 1st Battalion returned to Alexandria, whence it embarked for England, where it arrived in December, 1885, being quartered at Portsmouth. A year later a move was made to Aldershot, where the Battalion remained until 1888. The next station was Preston, with Detachments at Fleetwood and the Isle of Man. In March, 1891, the Battalion crossed over to Ireland, and were quartered in Dublin until the spring of 1893, when the Battalion went south to Fermoy. After two and a half years at that station orders were received to proceed to Brighton, a stay of about three weeks being made on the way in the Aldershot Command for brigade training and manœuvres. Brighton was reached at last in the last week of September, 1896, two companies being detached at Chichester. Thus the Royal Sussex Regiment was quartered in its own county for the first time since 1818. To celebrate this event the Battalion were entertainment at dinner in the Dome at Brighton on December 16th, 1896, when over 700 sat down to dinner, the Mayor of Brighton being in the chair, supported by the Duke of Norfolk, K.G., Sir Henry Fletcher, Bart., M.P., Mr. Gerald Loder, M.P., Major-General Sir William Butler, K.C.B., Commanding South Eastern District, and a number of Brighton and Sussex magnates, and old officers of the Regiment. The Chichester Detachment were brought over by special train for the occasion.

The married families of the Regiment and the men on duty were not forgotten, a pair of blankets being presented to each family on the strength and off and a money grant to each child and to men on duty.

As after paying for this most hospitable entertainment of the Battalion a balance remained over the Executive Committee decided to make a presentation of plate to the Officers' Mess of the Battalion to commemorate the occasion. This took

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the form of a very handsome silver tray and a large milk jug, which remain in the Officers' Mess as a permanent memento of a very notable occasion.

1898 The Battalion remained in Brighton until August 17th, 1898. Aldershot was the next move, the Battalion arriving there on September 10th, the interval having been spent at brigade training at Wareham, followed by manœuvres on Salisbury Plain, the first manœuvres held in that area after it had been taken over by the War Office. The Plain was then well-stocked with game, and the scene on the final day of the operations when the Northern and Southern Armies were on the point of contact was one never to be forgotten. Hundreds of hares, numberless coveys of partridges, hemmed in between the armies, raced backwards and forwards scared out of their wits, until finally they dropped exhausted. Suppers that night in bivouac were not all of bully beef.

1899 At Aldershot the Battalion quite appropriately occupied Maida Barracks. The stay at Aldershot was but a short one. The state of affairs in South Africa having become threatening it was decided to reinforce the garrison there, and to replace a battalion sent from Malta to Natal, the 1st Battalion was sent out at very short notice to Malta, embarking from Tilbury on September 19th, 1899, and arriving at Malta a week later.

2ND BATTALION IN INDIA.

1887-88 In 1887 the 2nd Battalion were at Rawal Pindi, and during the following winter the tug-of-war team of the Battalion carried all before it at the district assault-at-arms.

For the hot weather of 1888 the Battalion moved to Gharial in the Murree Hills, whence they moved towards the end of the summer, having been detailed to take part in an expedition for the punishment of the Black Mountain tribes for the murder of Majors Battye and Minsters, who had been sent out to

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inspect the line of boundary pillars along the crest of the mountains.

The Battalion marched through Changla Gali, Doonga Gali and Bara to Abbottabad and the base at Oghi, where it was joined by two fine regiments, the 14th Sikhs and 24th Punjab Infantry, to form the third column of the Expeditionary Force under Colonel Sunderland, the Commanding Officer of the Battalion.

The first three columns climbed the hill from the east side, the fourth following the left bank of the River Indus. The highest bivouac of the Battalion, Akhund Baba Kachura, was about 9,000 feet above sea level, and from there several raids were made down spurs towards the Indus. The expedition met with little resistance, the only action of note being at Katkai, where 150 fanatics charged the 18th Royal Irish and were shot down.

The tribes submitted after we had been in occupation of their country for about a month.

The casualties of the Royal Sussex were six wounded, and the comparative freedom of the Battalion from casualties was due mainly to the flanking system employed. Instead of a flank guard moving parallel to the Battalion the van guard used to drop men right and left, who, from behind rocks or trees, would watch the ground below and keep snipers at a distance, and rejoin the Battalion as the rear guard came along. The Battalion had a magnificent lot of men, and every one regretted that the tribesmen did not put up a better fight.

1895-97 From 1895 to 1897 the 2nd Battalion were at Fyzabad, which, in those days at all events, was regarded as almost a soldier's paradise, all ranks being able to indulge in sport of various descriptions. Here the Battalion distinguished themselves in many ways. The officers' polo team reached the final of the Connell Cup at Allahabad, being then beaten by the 8th Bengal Cavalry by 5 goals to 3.

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The Battalion kept its place in the Revolver Shooting Competition of the Army Rifle Association, as is testified by the Connaught Cups on the Officers' Mess table. At the Lucknow assault-at-arms the tug-of-war cup was wrested from the 74th Highland Light Infantry, a team in those days regarded as invincible.

Early in 1897 rumours came to Fyzabad that tribes on the North-West Frontier were becoming restive. As the hot weather advanced disturbances actually began, and by the end of July the whole frontier was ablaze, and the Battalion waited patiently for orders to move. However, it was not likely that a numerically strong and physically fit battalion could be entirely overlooked, and at length orders came to entrain for Peshawar on October 1st, 1897. On arrival at Peshawar orders were received for Headquarters and four companies to occupy barracks, and the other wing to take over Fort Jamrud. This order finished all hope that the Battalion would join one of the formations of the Tirah Expeditionary Force. The wing at Peshawar settled down to guard duty and training. Guards were not entirely of the peace time kind, owing to frequent invasions by armed Afridi raiders in quest of rifles and ammunition. After several sentries had become casualties the guard-rooms were sandbagged, and became miniature blockhouses.

The wing at Jamrud also had some exciting times, as wandering Afridis sometimes sniped the fort at night, and piquets were required to protect the Peshawar road, where men walked for recreation in the afternoons, and horses were exercised.

In December the Tirah Force returned from their punitive expedition into Afridi country and prepared to deal with the truculent Zakha Khels. In one column was the 2nd Battalion Devonshire Regiment, whose men were suffering severely from malaria. The 2nd Battalion Royal Sussex, therefore, were ordered to replace the 2nd Devons in the 1st Brigade.

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On December 24th the 1st Brigade began its march towards the Bazar Valley, which was entered on the 25th. The march was along the usual stony nullahs and mountain tracks of the North-West Frontier. Opposition was slight and easily overcome, but the whole operation was dominated by the enormous baggage train of some 3,500 pack animals required to carry ten days' supplies for men and animals.

On December 27th the Battalion marched out a few miles south to cover the flank and rear of the 2nd Brigade, retiring to the Khyber after destroying villages in the western front of the Bazar Valley. Flanking piquets got into position, and soon the sound of mountain guns was heard. "D" Company was the first to come into action and surprised the Afridis, who were following up the 2nd Battalion The Queen's. The 2nd Brigade having passed by, the retirement of the farthest piquet of the Battalion was assisted by a couple of rounds from a mountain gun, and the piquet withdrew from a difficult position without casualties. The rest of the retirement proceeded in the usual manner from ridge to ridge, casualties being few considering the accuracy of the shooting of the Afridis and their rapid movement over the mountains.

This small action brought credit to the Battalion, as it succeeded completely in drawing off the Afridis, who were harassing the 2nd Brigade. The mountain ridge and spurs where the action took place were extremely rough going and covered with scrub, and this accounted for the loss of the bodies of two non-commissioned officers who were killed, despite several gallant searches made for them. It is a point of honour with the troops to save all dead and wounded with their arms from falling into enemy hands.

The night of December 27th/28th was very "noisy." The Afridis, who had suffered considerable losses on the 17th owing to the surprise

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intervention of the Battalion, sniped the camp all night. The chief sufferers were the 30th Punjabis. When they quitted their bivouacs in the morning the ground looked like a graveyard by reason of the hollows they had dug and built round with stones to protect themselves from stray bullets.

On December 25th the column left Burg to return to the Khyber by the same route by which it entered. The Afridis followed up very actively where the route passed through precipitous defiles for three or four miles. Thanks to good piqueting by the 1st Battalion Sherwood Foresters little damage was done. The 2nd Battalion furnished rear and flank guards.

On December 29th the column was not so actively followed, and that afternoon camp was pitched near Ali Musjid, where tents were drawn again. The 2nd Battalion was told off to hold the ridge with a mountain battery and the 21st Madras Pioneers, the rest of the Brigade being in the valley.

The camp at Ali Musjid grew more and more protected as January, 1898, wore on without any hint of a fresh move. Stone clearing and sangar building fatigues were eternal, varied by piqueting duty either of the camp or the pass. By this time—the end of January, 1898—all organized resistance on the part of the Afridis had ceased, but troops could not move or take exercise North and West of Peshawar without protection. On January 28th/29th a general round-up of the adjacent villages was made by the Bara, Peshawar and Khyber Brigades, the idea being to hustle the Afridis and get them to send in their "jirghas" or deputations to settle terms on which they could have peace. In addition, all cattle, goats, etc., were to be brought back by the troops.

By the end of May the Brigades of the Tirah Expeditionary Force were broken up and reformed, and thenceforth duty consisted of piqueting various important points, which was much simplified by the

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building of blockhouses. The hot weather seemed endless, but at last news came that the Battalion was to be relieved, and in October, 1898, it started on its move to Sialkot and Amritsar. Thus ended a year's spell of active service on the frontier, after which the Battalion was not to see service again until August, 1914.

The South African War.

Services of the 1st and 3rd Battalions and Volunteer Active Service Companies.

The next spell of active service fell to the lot of the 1st Battalion, which was despatched to South Africa in January, 1900, from Malta, where it was stationed at the outbreak of the Boer War. The Battalion reached the Cape in February, and was sent up to join Lord Roberts' Army at Bloemfontein, forming part of General Bruce Hamilton's Brigade in the advance to Pretoria. The Battalion was engaged with the enemy on the Zand River, where formidable defences had been prepared extending some twenty miles. Again the enemy was encountered in considerable force at Doornkop outside Johannesburg, where the enemy position was stormed in the face of artillery and rifle fire, the Battalion, by threatening the enemy's flank, helping considerably in the success of the frontal attack made by another brigade. **1900-02**

Pretoria was reached on June 5th, and the Army marched past Lord Roberts on the Square, the 1st Battalion leading the 21st Brigade. The band bass drum of the Battalion was the only big drum in the Army which had come through the advance with both "heads" intact, so it was necessary to pass it from band to band to play the Army past Lord Roberts. Although its heads were intact, this drum had had a bullet right through the shell from side to side at the Battle of Doornkop whilst it was lying on the ground with two drummers taking cover behind it! Strange to say, neither of them was hit.

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The Battle of Diamond Hill followed on June 11th/12th, when the Battalion captured an important position, and held it under severe shrapnel and rifle fire (1 officer killed and 1 officer and 16 other ranks wounded).

Shortly afterwards the 21st Brigade moved south and seized Heidelberg, thence to Reitz and Bethlehem, and took part in the attack on Retief's Nek, July 23rd (1 officer and 3 men killed, and 4 officers and 32 other ranks wounded).

Lieut.-General Sir A. Hunter, under whose command the column had now come, referred thus to the conduct of the Battalion on this occasion:—

"Your men worked splendidly in the attack. They could not have done more. I wish to convey to them my high admiration of the dauntless way they advanced under such fire; nothing could have been finer."

Retief's Nek was part of the mountain Battle of Wittebergen, in which, after rapid marches and hard fighting, the enemy's forces were surrounded, and an army of over 4,000 men, under Prinsloo, laid down their arms. The Orange Free State flag of one of the "laagers" was presented to the Battalion by the General Officer Commanding.

Thereafter the war developed into a guerilla campaign, in which the Battalion took its full share.

One phase of the services of the 1st Battalion during the South African War calls for special remark, as it was an experience which it is believed fell to the lot of no other British infantry unit. Early in 1901 five companies of the Battalion, under Major L. E. du Moulin, were detached as escort to the convoy working from the railway to supply General Bruce Hamilton's mobile column. With his usual energy, Major du Moulin proceeded to mount his command from the veldt, and by other means of acquisition. It was not long before he found himself in command of some 300 mounted men who had been taught to ride by the light of bitter

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experience that it was better to remain on a horse than fall off. His enterprise was in due course rewarded, for in June, 1901, General Bruce Hamilton turned Major du Moulin's command into a fighting column, adding a company of Imperial Yeomanry, a section of Royal Field Artillery and a section of Pom Poms.

From this time till the end of the war the column was on trek, seeing almost daily fighting. The extreme south-east corner was the only part of the Orange River Colony in which it did not operate at some time or other.

Bt. Lieut.-Colonel du Moulin, D.S.O., was killed in his bivouac on January 27th, 1902, whilst gallantly taking part in the successful repulse of a night attack which was made by three Boer commandos upon the bivouac.

Shortly after Colonel du Moulin's death, the column, as such, was broken up, and the mounted men of the Royal Sussex Regiment were attached to Colonel Hunter Weston's column, and with him took part in the final drive, under General Ian Hamilton, on Vryburg, resulting in the capture of about 500 Boers.

There was nothing spectacular about the fighting, but much hard work was entailed, and many hundreds of miles were covered up and down the Free State and Transvaal chasing the elusive Boer. Rations were generally scanty; for days, and sometimes for weeks, half or even quarter rations were all that could be issued when away from the railway, and water was always scarce. The extremes of heat and cold were severe, and since tents could not be carried and no houses existed for billets it was a case of the hard ground to lie on with the sky as a roof month after month. But the climate, on the whole, was healthy, and the Boer was a chivalrous foe.

Peace came at last, after the Battalion had had two and a quarter years of campaigning, during which

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time it never lost a prisoner. How many battalions went through the Boer War with such a record?

Besides the 1st Battalion, the Royal Sussex Regiment was represented in South Africa by the 3rd Battalion Royal Sussex Militia, and in succession by three Active Service Companies formed of Volunteers from the three Sussex Volunteer Battalions.

The Royal Sussex Militia was embodied in 1899, and after some months of service at home, having volunteered for service in South Africa, it was sent out in 1900, under Lieut.-Colonel The Earl of March, and did much good service on the lines of communication, chiefly in the Orange River Colony. In 1901 it was moved to St. Helena to guard Boer prisoners, returning to England in 1902, and was disembodied shortly after it arrived.

The 1st (Active Service) Volunteer Company landed in April 1900, and joined the 1st Battalion in time to take part in the march to Pretoria. This company shared in all the hard work of the 1st Battalion in 1900, its commander, Captain Sir Walter Barttelot, being killed at Retief's Nek, where the company greatly distinguished itself. In May, 1901, this company returned to England, as the term of the men's engagement was drawing to a close. Its place was taken in May, 1901, by the 2nd (Active Service) Company, which, in turn, left for England in June, 1902, its place being taken by the 3rd (Active Service) Company, which arrived in South Africa a few days before peace was declared, and left for home again next month.

1ST BATTALION.—INDIA.

2ND BATTALION.—HOME—MALTA—CRETE—IRELAND.

1902-7 On October 17th, 1902, the 1st Battalion sailed from Cape Town to India, where details were taken over from the 2nd Battalion, a wing of both Battalions meeting at Mian Mir. The 2nd Battalion

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sailed for home at the beginning of November after twenty years' foreign service, but their stay in England was to be of the briefest, for in June, 1904, the Battalion embarked for Malta, and next year was moved on to Crete, where it was required to keep in check one of the periodical light comedy rebellions peculiar to those parts. Much experience was gained by officers in administration, the British sphere being divided into districts, each in charge of an officer and a section or two of men. In his district an officer was supreme, and amicable relations were soon established with the inhabitants, who were only too ready to live in peace. The enemy did not number more than a dozen or two, mostly unpopular politicians, who found the quiet of the hills safer than the by-streets of the towns. Amongst those then in retirement in the hills was one who has since earned a European reputation as one of the most astute statesmen of these days, M. Venizelos.

Perhaps the most touch-and-go operation which fell to the lot of the Battalion in Crete was the task of safely evacuating from the island the retiring High Commissioner, Prince George of Greece, who was to be replaced by a Greek politician. Happily, all went off successfully, although, owing to the state of feeling in the island at the time, anything might have happened.

1907-12 In February, 1907, the 2nd Battalion terminated its stay in Crete and moved to its new quarters at Belfast for another term of service in Ireland.

During its stay in Belfast, the 2nd Battalion had a good deal of unpleasant duty helping the police to quell riots and keeping order during strikes, and no one was sorry when a move was made to the Curragh in 1909. Even there all was not peace, as in 1911 there was an interlude of strike duty in South Wales.

At the Curragh the Battalion carried off considerably more than its share of prizes at the various

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rifle meetings, and won its way twice into first place in the Army Hockey Tournament.

1912-14 In 1912 the 2nd Battalion moved to Woking, where again many prizes were won at the Army and Command Rifle Meetings. The Army Hockey Tournament was again won in 1912-13 and 1913-14.

The Great War.

Briefly, the reason why Great Britain entered the Great War was that by the treaty of 1839 she had engaged to interfere if either of the parties in a war violated the neutrality of Belgium.

On the outbreak of the Great War the Regiment consisted of six battalions: the 1st Battalion at Peshawar; the 2nd Battalion at Woking, in the Aldershot Command; the Headquarters of the 3rd (Special Reserve) Battalion was at the Depot at Chichester; and the Headquarters of the 4th, 5th (Cinque Ports), and 6th (Cyclist) Battalions were at Horsham, Hastings and Brighton respectively. The three latter were either completing or had just completed their annual training.

Services of the 2nd Battalion in the Great War.

1914 The order to mobilize was issued on August 4th, and the 2nd Battalion was completed to war strength at Woking, and by the 9th was ready to move. The 3rd, 4th, 5th and 6th Battalions were embodied.

The 2nd Battalion formed part of the 2nd Brigade, 1st Division, amongst the first of the British troops landed in France on August 13th, 1914, and next day entrained at Le Havre for the French-Belgian frontier. After concentrating in the country north-east of Guise, the 1st Division advanced through Maubeuge to Rouveroy, a village on the Mons—Chimay road, the 2nd Division on their right, and the 3rd Division on their left along the Conde—Mons Canal.

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Meanwhile the main German armies were moving through Belgium, where they were held up by the gallant defence put up by the Belgians at Liège, and were advancing to invade France across her North-Eastern Frontier.

The brunt of the battle of Mons fell on the 3rd and 5th Divisions, but the 2nd Division also had to meet a considerable attack in the neighbourhood of Binche. The 1st Division took no part in the battle except as distant spectators. Consequently the idea that the 2nd Battalion "fought" at Mons is not correct. The 2nd Battalion had its first actual taste of fighting on September 6th at the Battle of the Marne, near Priez, when it sustained over 100 casualties.

In the interval between Mons and the Marne the Battalion took its part with the British Expeditionary Force in the great Retreat from Mons, which will go down to history as a really great military achievement. The following is given on the authority of Field-Marshal Earl Haig, and is an interesting tribute paid to the British Expeditionary Force of the Retreat from Mons by its great opponent, Von Kluck, the Chief of the First German Army.

Von Kluck, says Lord Haig, was visited in Berlin by one of the officers of the British Army of Occupation. As is the custom with officers of the Allied Armies of Occupation, the British officer held out his hand. Before taking it Von Kluck said:—

"Not before I have fulfilled a vow I made before the end of the war. It was that before I would shake hands with any British officer again I would say this to him: 'I am an old man. I started active soldiering in 1866 against the Austrians, I fought in the 1870 war against France, and have studied and talked about war all my life, holding high command before the war. But nothing I have ever read or seen or heard is comparable to the achievements of the First British Expeditionary Force sent out to help the French.'"

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On September 13th the Aisne was crossed, the 2nd Battalion crossing by a partially demolished bridge at Bourg, and next day began the Battle of the Aisne, in which the 2nd Battalion was heavily engaged on the heights near the sugar factory at Troyon. The Battalion was fighting all day, and sustained heavy casualties, the Commanding Officer, Second-in-Command, Adjutant, and six other officers being killed, and the total loss in killed and wounded was upwards of 300.

Trench warfare then began, and the 2nd Battalion occupied trenches along the Chemin des Dames on the extreme right of the British position, there being a gap of half a mile between the right of our line and the French left, which there were no men available to occupy, the whole of the British troops being already in the line.

At night the French used to send up a battalion of Zouaves to occupy this gap. These troops had a habit of heralding their approach to their position in the line by firing their rifles " from the hip " as they skirmished up to the line—an operation they called " clearing the ground." This manœuvre was wont to be chiefly dangerous to our men occupying the adjacent trenches.

The change from mobile to trench warfare was a more critical time for the British Army than generally is realized. It may be said that every unit had lost in the fighting of the first month of the war, culminating in the Battle of the Aisne, a large proportion of its pre-war officers and men. Under these circumstances there might have been a slackening off, and in some units it is feared that the tendency to let things go was given way to. Even officers of senior rank were for a time to be seen growing beards, men became careless of their personal appearance and their kit; arms and equipment of dead and wounded were thrown away. In one place in the trenches on the Aisne the parapet was to be seen actually revetted with Lee-Metford

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rifles. If such had been allowed to become the standard of the Army, the personnel would have been reduced rapidly to the "Ole Bill" type, which, happily, it may be said, was never the type of the British Army in France, though it is admitted readily that as a comic entertainment the creation of "Ole Bill" in current literature and on the stage did much to add to the gaiety of the Army and the nation.

The necessity of keeping up what may be termed the *minor* discipline of troops may well excuse this brief diversion. There is no doubt that those units which never slacked off did not lose heart under heavy losses, and could be relied upon for extra efforts in a tight place owing to the added morale they insensibly gained from pride of their unit and pride of their training and turn-out. In trenches it was not possible at all times to keep up the appearances of peace time, but once out of the line the men could be expected to smarten themselves up, to keep their billets and surroundings clean and tidy, and it is no exaggeration to say that when at rest in back areas most units had smartened themselves up in a day or two, and in a few days more drill and handling of arms approached almost to peace time precision.

The manner in which regimental transport was kept, especially in units of the Old Army, notwithstanding their nightly trip to the line with rations, etc., was the result of much hard work and a credit to all concerned. The Horse Shows held from time to time by Brigades and Divisions did much to foster rivalry in this direction, and the 2nd Battalion well-nigh cleared the board on many occasions at these competitions for turn-out of animals and vehicles.

The Battalion remained in trenches on the Aisne till October 15th, during which time there was intermittent fighting, and it had its first experience of such forms of frightfulness as high explosive shells,

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trench mortar bombs, and rifle grenades, to none of which the British Army had anything as yet to give in reply.

Early in October the British Army on the Aisne began its move round the rear of the French armies on its left and through Paris to take up its position on the left of the Allied line to cover the Channel Ports. It was then that the British Expeditionary Force took up the line covering Ypres, which place was fated to become the centre of much of the grimmest fighting of the war. Surely there has never been a more dramatic battle than the first Battle of Ypres, in which the 2nd Battalion played a very honourable part. To quote the official history of the war, "The fate of the war: and thus the history of the world hung in the scales; so even was the balance between the attack backed by vastly superior numbers and a crushing weight of artillery, and the defence, relying on skill-at-arms and tactical training to compensate for lack of numbers—of valour there was no lack on either side—that this balance was time and again restored by the counterstroke of a mere handful of weary men—a handful, but the last available reserve. Above all, the battle was a triumph for the training of the old Regular Army. Once again the British infantryman proved himself the superior in marksmanship and power of manœuvre to the picked troops of the Continent."

Of the moral superiority this little army established over its foes the most eloquent witnesses are the German accounts of the battle. So blasting was the effect of the British rifle fire that the Germans credited their foes with countless machine guns; so well-sited were the few hasty trenches that the British found it possible to construct that the Germans constantly speak of attacking "fortresses"; and so determined and effective were the British counterstrokes that the Germans, in their imagination, peopled the empty woods behind the thin front line with reserves of fresh divisions. As the official history sums it up:—

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"The caution and want of enterprise on the part of the enemy's fighting troops were strange to those who knew how little they had between them and the coast; but, as a matter of fact, they had good and substantial cause in their well-founded fear of British musketry, apart from their reasonable suspicion, that heavy reserves were concealed in the woods ready to counter-attack. Possibly they could not conceive that so weak a line should dare to deny the way to the coast."

The excuse for the above lengthy quotation is the moral that it points to the need of intense training in our little Army. It was nothing more than their high state of training which enabled the "Old Contemptibles" to go through the retreat from Mons and at the first Battle of Ypres, reduced though they were to a thin firing line, without supports and without reserves, short of guns, and those limited to eight rounds a day, to stick to their ground against the flower of the German Army, supported by a powerful artillery.

A description of the First Battle of Ypres is not easy within the limited space at our disposal. From October 26th to November 15th the Battalion was almost continuously in action. Supports and Reserves, strictly speaking the British Expeditionary Force had none—the only spare troops being such as were squeezed out of the line, when, as often happened, it was shortened to straighten out a salient which was becoming dangerous. If reinforcement was required anywhere, and there was seldom a moment when some unit was not hard pressed, the only help that could be given was by detaching a platoon, or perhaps two, from some unit on whom pressure was for the moment not so severe. It followed, therefore, that units at times became somewhat mixed up.

The fighting was at fairly close quarters, and for the most part in dense woods, which as yet had been

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damaged but little by shell fire except at the edges. In some instances British and Germans actually occupied parts of the same line of trench, and it even happened that the same loophole was used sometimes by one side, and sometimes by the other.

The weather during most of the time was atrocious, and the roads and tracks were in such a state of quagmire that it was extremely difficult to get up ammunition and supplies. The men existed on tinned meat and biscuits, and for over three weeks a hot meal was unknown. The frequent alterations of the line and consequent movements from one part of it to another necessitated continuous digging. Sleep was only to be had in snatches, and it is on record that from October 26th it was not until November 10th that the Battalion got a decent night's rest, and water for a wash and shave.

Casualties were heavy. For instance, on October 30th-31st alone they totalled 405, and the two or three small drafts received in no way replaced losses.

It can be imagined with what feelings the news was received late on November 15th that the arrival of reinforcements permitted reliefs to be carried out, and that billeting parties were called for. Next day orders came for the Battalion to move back with the Brigade to Hazebrouck to refit, and for a rest. This lasted until the first week of December, when the Battalion again went up into the line, this time in front of Bethune, where a very uncomfortable time was spent up till Christmas in trenches which, being in low-lying ground, were in many places waist-deep in water, and in consequence there was a heavy wastage through sickness. The Battalion felt themselves lucky to get out of the trenches just in time to spend a jolly Christmas together in billets—where they thoroughly enjoyed all the nice things which had been so kindly sent out for the occasion by kind friends at Home.

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Here a diversion may, perhaps, be permitted to put on record the gratitude that all ranks felt to those kind friends at home who laboured so incessantly, especially in the early years of the war, to keep the men supplied with all sorts of comforts, cigarettes, etc.

To Miss MacCartie, then of Eastbourne, the Regiment was to a special degree indebted, as she inaugurated early in the war a system by which weekly parcels of food, clothing and other comforts were sent out to our unfortunate prisoners in Germany. Their trials were often hard indeed, but they would have been infinitely worse had it not been for the addition to their scanty rations, which they owed to the devoted work of Miss MacCartie, her committee and helpers and other like organizations which later sprang up all over the county, not forgetting all the generous friends of the Regiment who subscribed the funds to carry on the good work.

It was during the first Battle of Ypres that there originated the proud, though unofficial, title of "The Iron Regiment," conferred upon the 2nd Battalion The Royal Sussex Regiment as an unsolicited testimonial by German prisoners captured on November 1st, 1914.

The winter of 1914-15 was spent in the mud of **1915**
Flanders in and out of water-logged trenches in front of Bethune. Whilst in trenches at Cuinchy amid the "Brickstacks" one of these latter, captured the previous day by the Battalion, was stormed in the early morning of January 27th to celebrate the Kaiser's birthday by Germans armed with scaling ladders, axes, etc. They were repelled in great style by "C" Company.

In February, 1915, the 2nd Battalion were joined in the 2nd Brigade by the 5th (Cinque Ports) Battalion, and the two battalions fought together in the Battle of the Aubers Ridge (May 9th), where they greatly distinguished themselves. This was a

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day of heavy losses, each battalion losing about 200 killed and wounded.

At the Battle of Neuve Chapelle the 2nd Battalion had been close up in reserve, but was not called upon.

In the Battle of Loos (September 25th, etc.) the 2nd Battalion took part in the attack in the vicinity of the Lone Tree in front of Hulluch, where Sergeant H. Wells won the V.C. and lost his life. The Loos operations continued till mid-October, after which the Battalion spent the winter of 1915-16 in and out of the trenches in that part of the line, north and south of Loos.

1916 On July 2nd, 1916, began the move by road and rail to the Somme area, arriving there on July 9th, and on the 16th moved up into the front line, preparatory to an attack which was planned for the 22nd upon the new German line pivoted on Pozières. The Battalion objective was Munster Alley, but the attack failed, as the enemy spotted the troops moving to assembly positions, and smothered the attack with artillery and machine-gun fire.

On August 15th the Battalion were in the front line near High Wood, and attempted to seize a trench running south-west of High Wood, but the first attempt failed. Next day, however, the attack was renewed and the trench captured, in spite of strong counter-attacks, one such attack being assisted by flammen-werfer.

On the 20th the Battalion was again called on, and had some heavy fighting, and such strong resistance was met with that only a small trench was captured.

The Battalion, reduced to a fighting strength of 4 officers and 150 other ranks, was then withdrawn to rest. Casualties for the preceding seven days had amounted to:—Officers, 3 killed, 14 wounded; other ranks, 56 killed, 320 wounded, 87 missing.

Early in September the Battalion again moved up into the same sector and, with the 60th Rifles,

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attacked on the 9th east of High Wood. The two battalions took a long bit of trench, and dug in a flank to edge off the salient caused by a Battalion which attacked in the wood on our left failing to make headway. Casualties: 10 officers and 248 other ranks.

Shortly after the 1st Division were relieved by the New Zealanders, who were to make the first great attack with tanks, which was a complete success, but resulted in a ragged and uncertain line.

After a brief period of rest the Battalion again went up into the same sector, and took part on the 24th in a combined attack upon the German line in front of Eaucourt L'Abbaye. This attack, ordered to take place at night, involved the use of guides from another corps to lead the companies over ground riddled with shell holes and old trenches some 600 yards to a "tape line" 400 yards short of the objective. Guides did not turn up in all cases, and those that did had a task beyond their powers, and the manœuvre, which would have been a very difficult one even in peace time, was not a success. Casualties were small, but there was a good deal of confusion and many stores lost.

After a brief rest, an attack was again made by the Battalion by day in front of Prue Trench, and, assisted by a wonderfully accurate creeping barrage, no less than 1,100 yards was covered and the objective taken, with very few casualties. The Battalion was badly shelled afterwards, but was quite comfortable and held on until relieved on the 29th by a battalion of the 47th Division. On September 30th the Battalion left the Somme area, having lost in the Battle of the Somme 44 officers and over 1,000 men.

The early part of the winter of 1916-17 was spent in the line in the neighbourhood of Flers.

Early in February, 1917, after a period of rest **1917** and training, the Battalion moved south to take over from the French. The move was completed

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on February 5th, when the Battalion marched past the commander of the French XII Corps.

On February 7th the Battalion went into the line in front of Barleux, relieving the 107th French Regiment of Infantry and covered by French artillery. This was the second occasion upon which the Battalion carried out a relief with a sister Regiment of the French Army, as in September, 1915, the 35th French Regiment of Infantry relieved the Battalion in trenches in front of Loos.

During the stay of the Battalion in the Barleux area, between March 13th and 21st the Germans retired about ten miles, but the 2nd Brigade remained in reserve west of the Somme. Later it was employed with the rest of the 1st Division repairing the main Estrées—Villers Carbonnel road, which the Germans had wrecked prior to their retirement.

A period of training followed until May 26th, when the Battalion entrained for the Second Army area. At Meteren they detrained, and were in tactical reserve to the IX, X, and Anzac Corps in their attack on the Messines Ridge on June 7th.

Later, the Battalion moved to the coastal sector (Nieuport), where it was engaged in the German attack on July 10th.

In August intensive training began at Le Clipon Camp, near Dunkerke, for a landing which was intended to be made upon the Belgian coast, but which never came off. The Battalion remained in this camp until late in October, when it moved to the Ypres sector, spending Christmas in the Houthulst Forest section.

During the two periods when the Battalion was in the line in this sector (north of Passchendaele), six days in all, the casualties were heavy, but no operations were carried out, except that the front line was advanced slightly by the Battalion. One Military Cross, one Distinguished Conduct Medal, and ten Military Medals were awarded the Battalion for gallantry during this period.

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The coming of 1918 found the Battalion still in the Houthulst Forest sector, and in February and March it was in the neighbourhood of Poelcappelle. **1918**

On March 21st occurred an incident which calls for special mention as indirectly pointing to a very notable distinction earned by the 2nd Battalion in the Great War. 2/Lieutenant A. J. A. Hutchins, 2nd Battalion, with two men, in trying to secure a prisoner, specially required for identification purposes, was fired upon by an enemy machine-gun post. 2/Lieutenant Hutchins tried to rush the post single handed, but was wounded and died a few days later in a German casualty clearing station. This was the only officer of the 2nd Battalion captured during the Great War. From the date of landing in France—August 13th, 1914—to the armistice, the 2nd Battalion lost in prisoners a total of only 1 officer, 38 warrant officers, non-commissioned officers and men. It is doubtful whether this low record can be equalled by any battalion that went through an equal amount of fighting. In the same period the 2nd Battalion lost in killed, 85 officers and 1,638 other ranks.

On April 4th, when in reserve at Ypres, the Battalion received orders to entrain next day for Merville, but the orders were altered *en route*, and twenty-four hours later it found itself in the forward area at Cambrin, in which neighbourhood several months had been spent in and out of trenches in the early months of 1915.

During the relief, and for ten hours later, the enemy kept up an intense bombardment, mostly gas, and, early on the morning of April 9th, attacked north of the La Bassée Canal, in the sector next to that held by the Battalion.

On April 18th, when the Battalion was holding the line at the Brickstacks, south of the canal, and garrisoning the important canal crossings at Pont Fixe and the Lock, the enemy again attacked north of the canal, after a heavy bombardment. The situation was doubtful until dawn on the 19th, when

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a counter-attack again restored the line. The left company of the Battalion engaged the enemy advancing north of the canal in flank. Casualties were slight.

The Battalion remained in and out of the same and neighbouring sectors throughout May to August, 1918.

On July 1st the 2nd Brigade was inspected by H.R.H. the Duke of Connaught at Bois des Dames, and medal ribbons were distributed.

On the night of July 20th/21st, "B" Company carried out a successful raid, which resulted in prisoners and two machine guns, and later in the same month a hostile raid on one of our posts at the Brickstacks was driven off with casualties to the enemy. This raid happened on much the same ground as the celebrated scaling-ladder and battle-axe attack made by the Germans upon "C" Company on January 27th, 1915.

After a time in army reserve at Dieval, the Battalion moved on September 1st to Arras, and from thence to assembly positions near Wancourt, where it was in reserve to the Canadian Corps.

On September 7th came another move across the Somme and to Pouilly, where it arrived on September 15th.

After two days in the front line the Battalion took part in an attack on the enemy positions around Vadencourt and to the east. The Battalion objectives were the high ground and slopes north-west of Pontruet, with exploitation to St. Helena. In spite of strong resistance the attack was successful, and a night attack gained further ground about St. Helena. Three hundred prisoners, nine field guns, and many machine guns and mortars were captured by the Battalion.

The General Officer Commanding 1st Division paid a personal visit to congratulate the Battalion, and a letter of appreciation was received from the IV Corps Commander.

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After rest and reorganization the Battalion was ordered to take part in an attack to secure the villages of Fresnoy and Gricourt, and especially the high ground north of the latter.

The Battalion attacked at dawn on September 24th, the Battalion objective being the south portion of the high ground north of Gricourt, connecting with other troops taking Gricourt and north slopes of the high ground respectively. Considerable opposition was met with, but all the Battalion's objectives were gained and many prisoners taken. Owing to failure on their left the battalion attacking the north slopes withdrew, leaving our left flank exposed. "C" Company thus suffered many casualties. Owing also to failure on our right, our line was slightly withdrawn to 200 yards in front of Samson's Trench. About 11.30 a.m. an enemy counter-attack of about 400 strong advanced against our line held by "A" Company. This attack was routed by a bayonet charge of less than eighty men, under Captain H. Roberts, forty prisoners being taken and many killed. This action was specially mentioned by Sir Douglas Haig in his daily communiqué.

The captures made by the Battalion this day were 400 prisoners, two field guns, and much other material. Later, the high ground and village of Gricourt were occupied by other troops, and the Battalion remained four days in the line.

During October minor attacks were carried out in conjunction with other troops.

On November 4th the Battalion was ordered to seize the crossing of the Sambre Canal at the lock south of Catillon, and to advance east to join up with other troops crossing at Catillon and the French crossing farther south. Royal Engineers personnel, under Major G. de C. E. Findlay, M.C., R.E., were attached to the Battalion as bridging crews, with light bridges, and the 2nd King's Royal Rifle Corps were in support. Shell fire caused

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many casualties before zero hour, and when the attack began the bridging crews were out of action. Strong opposition was encountered, and at one time it appeared as if the attack must fail, but inspired by the splendid example of the Commanding Officer (Lieut.-Colonel Johnson) and Major Findlay, R.E., the crossing was effected after half an hour's strenuous work upon the bridges under a very heavy fire. An advance of some miles was made, and many prisoners and much material captured.

For their gallant conduct in this action both the officers above-mentioned were awarded the Victoria Cross. Lieut.-Colonel D. G. Johnston, D.S.O., M.C., of the South Wales Borderers, had been in command of the 2nd Battalion since March 25th, 1918, except for a brief space when wounded. He continued in command until he returned to England on April 16th, 1919, with the cadre for demobilization.

To return to the 2nd Battalion after its successful operation at Catillon and the subsequent advance. Two days were spent holding an outpost line, after which the Battalion was withdrawn to Fresnoy Le Grand, where news of the Armistice arrived on November 11th.

On December 8th the Battalion received the Colours from England at Montgauthier, and crossed the frontier into Germany on the 17th, where it marched past the Divisional Commander with Colours flying and the band playing the regimental march.

The ensuing winter was spent on the Rhine.

1919 The Cadre of the Battalion left Dunkirk for England on April 15th, 1919, and received a great reception upon their arrival at Chichester.

The Battalion was then formed at Portsmouth, where it remained until October 30th, when it embarked for the West Indies. Headquarters and two companies were stationed at Jamaica with two companies on detachment at Bermuda. In order to

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deal with local situations, a company was detached to Belize in British Honduras at one time, and at another a company to Trinidad.

On completion of the duties for which these companies were detached they returned to their respective headquarters. It will be seen from the above that the Battalion had plenty of change during its two years' tour in the West Indies. **1920-21**

On October 21st, 1921, the Battalion embarked for Malta. On leaving their respective stations the Governors of Jamaica, Bermuda and Trinidad complimented the companies who had been under their command upon their excellent behaviour under circumstances which, owing to considerable local feeling over the colour question, were at times by no means easy.

After dropping time-expired men at Gibraltar, the Battalion arrived at Malta on November 14th, and were quartered at St. George's Barracks at Pembroke.

On September 14th, owing to a crisis in the Near East, the Battalion embarked at short notice on the H.T. *Somali* for Constantinople. At that time the Greek Army in Anatolia had been completely defeated by the Turks under Mustapha Kemal, and it was doubtful if the latter would respect the neutral zone south of the Dardanelles fixed by the Allies with the Greek and Sultan's Governments in 1921. On September 17th the transport was stopped at Chanak, close to the Narrows, and the Battalion disembarked, and immediately started preparing a defensive position covering the town. The garrison then consisted of a squadron of the 3rd Hussars, two battalions of infantry (1st Loyals and 2nd Royal Sussex), one four-gun battery of eighteen pounders, and small detachments of French and Italian troops. The Turks were reported to be advancing on Chanak, though still outside the neutral zone. The preparation of the defences was pushed forward with **1922**

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the utmost vigour, and reinforcements of both infantry and guns soon began to arrive.

On September 21st 6,000 Turkish cavalry were reported in the neighbourhood of Bighi, and information was received from Constantinople that the Second Turkish Army was advancing on Chanak and the Dardanelles, and that Chanak was to be held against all attack.

On September 22nd the French and Italian detachments withdrew, under instructions from their respective Governments, to the European side of the Dardanelles, and the Battalion extended its front to include that previously held by the French.

On September 23rd the Turkish cavalry crossed the boundary of the neutral zone, and the defences were manned at full strength.

The Turkish troops continued to close in on Chanak, but appeared to have orders to avoid opening hostilities. The British troops orders were to prevent the Turks entering the position, but not to precipitate a conflict if it could be avoided in view of the fact that it was hoped to arrange a conference between the Allied Generals and the Kemalists. This resulted in a situation in which the Turks finally advanced right up to our wire, and the opposing sentries were only a few yards apart. The situation was naturally extremely delicate and critical, and there is no doubt that a single shot fired would have precipitated hostilities along the whole front and a war with Turkey. Only the fine discipline shown by all the British troops prevented this from happening until the situation was eased by the signing of the Mudania Convention in the middle of October, when the Turks withdrew to a line some miles from the Chanak defences.

On October 18th the Battalion embarked for Thrace, having been selected with two other battalions to see the Greek troops and gendarmes clear of Eastern Thrace before the arrival of the Turks, and then to hand over to the latter in

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accordance with the arrangements agreed to at Mudania. The Battalion disembarked on October 19th at Rodosto, where their duty was to look after the whole of the Rodosto Casa.

Battalion Headquarters remained near the town of Rodosto, but numerous detachments were scattered about the Casa at great distances apart, and other parties made marching tours through disturbed areas. The presence of British troops had an immediate pacifying effect, and in a very short time completely stopped the numerous murders and atrocities which had been taking place before their arrival. The weather was very severe, with heavy snow storms and blizzards, and troops were at times exposed to great hardships.

On November 25th, having carried out its task with complete success, the Battalion again embarked at Rodosto, and disembarked at Chanak the following day.

Lieut.-General Sir Charles H. Harington, G.B.E., K.C.B., D.S.O., Commander-in-Chief of the British Forces in Turkey, congratulated the Battalion for its work in Thrace, stating that it had carried out a very difficult task with "immense credit." In a speech made shortly after his return to England, General Harington said, regarding the services of the 2nd Battalion: "I was very proud to have the 2nd Battalion Royal Sussex Regiment in my Command. A battalion of fine upstanding men, they were a credit to their country. They went to Eastern Thrace to carry out the evacuation of the Greeks, and I received high reports as to the humanity and generosity they displayed towards the wretched women and children they found there. The record of those services would make no bad page in our history."

During the early months of 1923 many crises occurred during the sitting of the Lausanne Conference, and the Battalion on many occasions manned their defences in readiness for attack, which, **1923**

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however, never developed. Weather continued very severe.

In the middle of May the Battalion moved out of billets in Chanak to a camp outside, but a nucleus garrison was always left in the line until July, when agreement was finally reached at Lausanne.

The following is an extract from a letter from the Brigade Commander of the Brigade in which the Battalion served in Chanak:—

"On leaving Chanak and vacating the command of the 83rd Infantry Brigade, Colonel-Commandant D. Shuttleworth wishes to thank the 2nd Battalion The Royal Sussex Regiment for their splendid assistance.

"The Battalion arrived at Chanak on September 17th, 1922, as a first and much needed reinforcement at a critical period, and at once proved its efficiency by settling down and doing a tremendous amount of continuous hard work. Through difficult conditions and under discomfort the Battalion has maintained its own high standard, and has shown itself as imbued with a magnificent spirit second to none. The experience gained here and in Thrace will be of value, and all ranks will look back in years to come on the part played by the 2nd Battalion The Royal Sussex Regiment in the settlement of the Near East question in 1922-23.

"Personally, the Colonel-Commandant is very proud to have had the Battalion under his command. He wishes Colonel Glasgow, Lieut.-Colonel Julius, warrant officers, non-commissioned officers and men the best of good fortune and a speedy return to Malta, where a hearty welcome awaits them."

On August 24th, 1923, the Battalion left Constantinople for Malta, and on September 12th, 1923, embarked from Malta for Singapore, arriving there on October 5th.

1924 On June 27th, in the presence of H.H. the Sultan of Johore, G.C.M.G., H.E. the General Commanding, and a gathering representative of the Services

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and the people of the Colony, His Excellency the Governor of the Straits Settlements (Sir L. Guillemard, K.C.B., K.C.M.G.), in his capacity as Commander-in-Chief, presented new Colours to the Battalion at Tanglin Barracks to replace the Colours which had been presented to the 107th Foot at Allahabad in 1865.

To quote from *The Straits Times*, Singapore, June 28th, 1924:—

"The parade itself was notably well done. The singularly impressive ceremony was gone through with a precision and exactness only possible with highly trained troops, and Lieut.-Colonel S. de V. A. Julius and officers and men of the Battalion can be assured that those who witnessed it were glad to have done so. In pre-war days such a parade might have impressed the onlooker merely as a complicated and picturesque piece of military drill. Nowadays every man has done his turn of soldiering and knows what a ceremonial parade means. He knows what good drill is. He appreciates, too, the significance of the Colours—the King's Colour as the symbol of the Sovereign; the Regimental Colour, which is the emblem of the soul of regiment.

"The standard of the drill, with which also should be mentioned the splendid playing of the Band, was a credit to every man on parade. In a special degree the 2nd Battalion The Royal Sussex Regiment have become popular in the city which they garrison. Friday's ceremony set the seal on their association with us, and makes their sojourn here memorable for all time."

In February, 1926, the stay of the 2nd Battalion in Singapore came to an end, and the Battalion proceeded to its new station, Rawal Pindi, arriving there on March 7th. **1926**

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1st Battalion in India.

1914 In February, 1914, as part of the 3rd Brigade, the 1st Battalion took part in operations against the Bunerwals. Marching on February 20th from Nowshera, where the force concentrated, the Bunerwal country was entered on the 22nd. Operations were rendered difficult by reason of the heavy rains, which made the country very deep. In spite of this, during seven marching days 125 miles were covered, and 46½ miles in one period of 32 hours. The Battalion arrived back at Peshawar on the 27th.

On March 18th the Battalion was inspected by the General Officer Commanding 1st Division, who, in a speech to the Battalion, said he had "never seen a finer battalion or turn-out, that he had always noticed the fine spirit animating all ranks and the quickness and decision with which everything was done."

At the assault-at-arms of the 1st Peshawar Division, held at Nowshera on April 23rd, etc., the Battalion won the cup for the best regiment at arms, and many team and individual prizes.

1st Battalion in the Great War.

In the early months of the Great War practically all the British troops in India were withdrawn for service in Europe and elsewhere, their place being taken by Territorials.

The only Regular troops retained in India were a Brigade for service on the North-West Frontier, as it was considered inadvisable to trust such a responsible position to young troops fresh from home, with no Indian experience. This explains why the 1st Battalion, undoubtedly as fine a battalion as any serving in India, was not sent to Europe to take part in the Great War.

1915 On August 17th the Battalion mobilized for service on the North-West Frontier and proceeded

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to Rustam for operations on the Buner Border. The Battalion took part in three minor engagements on August 21st, 26th and 31st, which effectually subdued the Bunerwals. Though the opposition offered by the tribesmen was not great, the operations are worthy of note, for they were carried out during the heat of an Indian summer, and it is seldom in these days that British troops are called upon to fight under such trying conditions.

Meanwhile the Mohmands had risen, and the 3rd Brigade were ordered to move as quickly as possible to Adezai in support of the 1st and 4th Brigades, operating on that border. Arriving on September 23rd, the Brigade remained inactive until October 8th, when it took part in the second action near Hafiz Kor. The Battalion was for a time under heavy fire and had a few casualties, but the Mohmands dispersed, not having offered the resistance which was expected. The Battalion returned to Peshawar on October 29th.

During the summer of 1916 drafts were sent to **1916** reinforce various battalions in Mesopotamia, and drafts received from home were of by no means the same quality as those sent away.

Meanwhile trouble was again brewing on the Mohmand Frontier, and a detachment of the Battalion provided the infantry of a flying column despatched from Peshawar on September 25th, 1916, remaining out until October 10th, when it was relieved by the 1st Brigade, a regular blockade of the Mohmand country having been established from the Kabul River on the left to the Swat River on the right. A barbed and live wire fence, with blockhouses every 400 yards, was constructed along the whole line.

In January, 1917, the Battalion took over part of **1917** this line, having three companies in outpost and one in reserve, and continued in position till the end of April, when the line, which had been partially reconstructed, often under fire, was handed over to the newly-formed Mohmand Militia.

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1918 In October, 1918, the Battalion was selected to furnish a special platoon to tour the Division, with with the idea of "demonstrating an ideal platoon, perfect in training, equipment and turn-out."

1919 Early in April, 1919, in consequence of riots having broken out in the Bombay Presidency, the Battalion was mobilized and proceeded to Poona. Later, half the Battalion was sent to Bombay on "riot duty." Things having quietened down; the Battalion returned to Rawal Pindi at the end of April.

In May, the Battalion mobilized with the 2nd Division and proceeded to Peshawar, in consequence of the threatening attitude of Afghanistan. On May 14th the Battalion were advanced to Kacha Gahri, and on the 16th a detachment sent as escort to a convoy carrying ammunition to Ali Musjid distinguished itself in extricating a company of Punjabis who were held up in an attack by tribesmen on Orange River—a position which commanded the Ali Musjid—Jamrud road. The Royal Sussex company captured the ridge and piqueted it.

During May, June and July the Battalion were engaged in constant reconnaissances and sorties, operations which were rendered very onerous owing to the extreme heat—the daily shade temperatures of these three months were, owing to a heat wave of remarkable severity, from five to seven degrees above the daily average of the previous twenty years.

On June 10th cholera broke out among the troops in the Khaibar, but the Battalion was very fortunate in comparison with other units, as only two died out of six cases.

On many occasions the Battalion greatly distinguished itself, having several very complimentary messages from Headquarters. Owing to exigencies of space it is only possible to give one instance, an extract from a letter from the General Officer Commanding North-West Frontier Force to the General Officer Commanding 2nd Division: "I

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congratulate the men of the Royal Sussex on their gallant defences of these posts when greatly outnumbered by the enemy. The change of name of 'Orange Patch Ridge' to 'Sussex Ridge' is approved."

A Military Cross and four Military Medals were given in recognition of services rendered.

On August 8th peace was signed with Afghanistan, but the Battalion remained in the Khaibar, and in September took part in operations against tribesmen.

In December the Battalion was reduced to a Cadre and embarked for England on December 27th, escorting home German prisoners of war.

In February, 1920, the Cadre joined Home Service **1920** details at Aldershot, and with them formed the 1st Battalion.

In March the Battalion proceeded to Cologne to join the Army of the Rhine.

On October 24th, 1920, the Battalion proceeded on Field Service scale to Dover, via Ostend, for duty in connection with the Railway Strike, but returned to Cologne on November 10th, the strike having been settled.

In December, 1920, the 1st Battalion was, after competition, adjudged by the Commander-in-Chief of the Army of the Rhine to be the most efficient battalion serving in that Army, and on January **1921** 10th, 1921, received from the hands of (the late) Field-Marshal Sir Henry Wilson, Chief of the General Staff, the trophies awarded for that competition—a shield to be held for a year, and a silver cup to be retained as a reminiscence of the achievement.

Referring to the above distinction, the following appeared in the *Morning Post* of February 19th, 1921:—

"THE IRON REGIMENT.—A notable honour has been earned by the Royal Sussex Regiment, which has been adjudged, in competition, the most efficient regiment now serving on the

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Rhine. No regiment that fought in this war was more strongly endowed with its County spirit, and it was often remarked how each battalion inherited certain peculiar qualities and traditions, based on the character of the Sussex man, a steadiness and stolidness which earned the nickname ' The Iron Regiment.' "

1ST BATTALION IN SILESIA.

On March 5th, 1921, the Battalion proceeded by rail to Tarnowitz, Upper Silesia, for duty in connection with the taking of a Plebiscite, or vote of the people, as to whether they would come under the government of Poland or of Germany.

On March 16th the Battalion was inspected by the French General Gratier, Commander-in-Chief of the Allied Forces in Upper Silesia, who afterwards addressed a very complimentary letter to the Commanding Officer, expressing his admiration for the excellent turn-out and drill of the Battalion. Whilst carrying out its duties the Battalion was split up into six detachments round about Tarnowitz, and on April 8th, on termination of the taking of the plebiscite, was concentrated at Tarnowitz and started on the return journey to Cologne, arriving there on the 11th. The Battalion remained there without any occurrence of interest until the beginning of June, when it proceeded to England.

1ST BATTALION AT HOME.

After a short stay at Dover it left on the 14th, via Holyhead, for the Curragh. On June 23rd Headquarters proceeded to Carrick-on-Shannon, with detachments at Longford, Mohill, Ballinamore and Drumshambo.

On July 9th the cessation of hostilities in Ireland was proclaimed. The locality of the detached companies was varied from time to time, but Headquarters remained at Carrick-on-Shannon.

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On February 13th, 1922, the Battalion was assembled and proceeded to Ballykinlar Camp, Co. Down, having handed over barracks and certain military stores to representatives of the Irish Provisional Government. 1922

On March 12th the Battalion proceeded to Belfast for temporary duty in connection with the inter-faction trouble, and remained there till March 29th, when Headquarters and three companies returned to Ballykinlar, "A" Company being left in Belfast for temporary duty, rejoining Headquarters on June 6th.

On June 12th the Battalion left Ballykinlar Camp for Newry, sending out detachments and flying columns from time to time.

On September 9th the Battalion was inspected by Colonel-Commandant N. J. G. Cameron, C.B., C.M.G., A.D.C., Commanding 16th Infantry Brigade. Three days later the Battalion left Newry and proceeded to Londonderry, coming under the 18th Infantry Brigade.

On bidding good-bye to the Battalion, the Officer Commanding 16th Infantry Brigade said:—

"I must express my regret at losing the Battalion which has been under my command for seven months.

"I have specially asked for this opportunity to congratulate the Battalion on its discipline, behaviour, training, turn-out, and interest taken in sport, also for the splendid Regimental Spirit which exists in the Battalion as a whole and which was so apparent in the numerous flying columns and detachments which have been furnished by the Battalion."

In October, at the Irish Command Rifle Meeting held at Ballykinlar, the following events were won by the Battalion:—

Kilworth Cup.
Sergeants' Cup.
2nd in Corporals' Cup.

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C.-in-C.'s Revolver Cup. Individual.
Inter-Unit Revolver Cup.
Individual Revolver Competition, 1st and 2nd.

1923 On November 6th formation began of the new Headquarter Wing.

On March 25th, 1923, the 18th Infantry Brigade was closed down and the O.C. Battalion became O.C. Londonderry Area. On this occasion a letter was received from Major-General A. G. Wauchope, C.M.G., C.I.E., D.S.O., late Commander of the 18th Infantry Brigade, from which the following is an extract:—

"It is with the greatest regret that the time has come for me to say farewell to the 1st Battalion The Royal Sussex Regiment.

"Both when in Silesia and in Ulster, the discipline and good conduct of the Regiment has been exemplary. I think this has been due, not only to the character of the men, but also to the strong feeling of *esprit de corps* and good feeling that fills all ranks. *Esprit de Corps* exists in all British regiments, but I have seldom seen it developed so strongly and always on such right lines as in the 1st Battalion The Royal Sussex Regiment. Shortage of numbers has made military training a matter of unusual difficulty during the past six months, but I must give my most sincere thanks to Colonel Bellamy, and indeed to all officers, for the successful efforts they have made in overcoming these difficulties and in maintaining as they have done the efficiency of the Battalion in every respect.

"I congratulate Colonel Bellamy most heartily on this efficiency and on the good spirit which I know fills the Regiment now, and will, I am sure, continue to fill all ranks of the 1st Battalion The Royal Sussex Regiment.

"I wish the Battalion all good fortune in the future, and I hope most sincerely that I may again have the honour of serving with the Royal Sussex."

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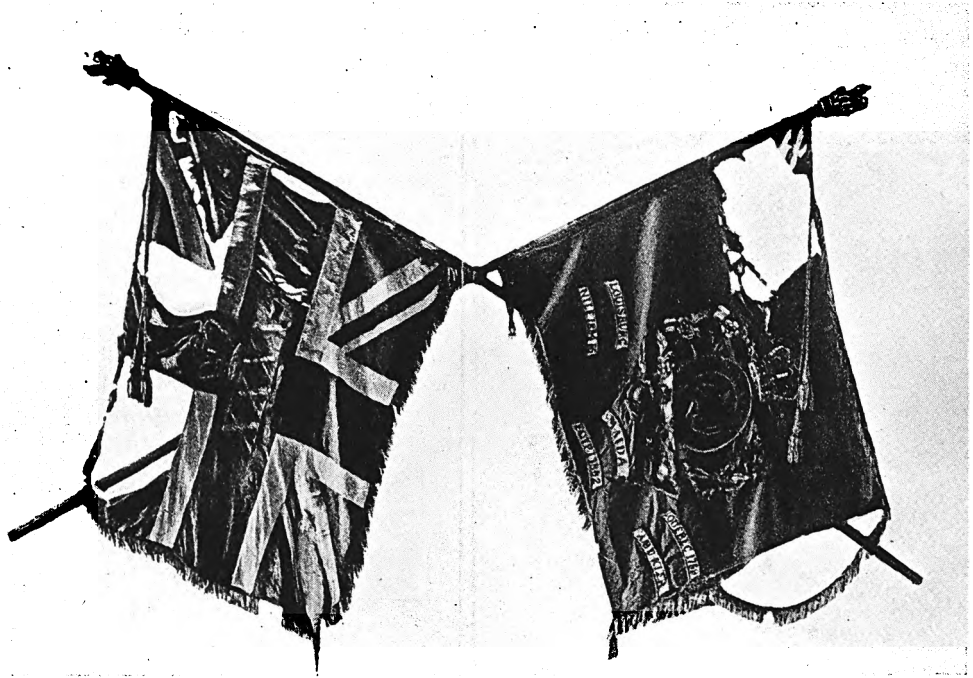

COLOURS OF 1st BATTALION.

Presented to 35th Foot at Meerut, December 26th, 1859, by Lady Canning, wife of the Governor-General of India. These Colours are still (1927) borne by the 1st Battalion.

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On July 24th, on the occasion of the visit to Londonderry of their Royal Highnesses the Duke and Duchess of York, the Battalion furnished a Guard of Honour. **1924**

During the 1924-25 hockey season the Battalion won the North-West of Ireland and the Northern Ireland District Cups, and in addition were runners-up for the Army Cup. **1925**

On May 22nd, 1925, at the Northern Ireland District Sports, the Battalion won Lord French's Relay Cup for the third year in succession, in addition to many individual and team events.

On January 29th-30th, 1926, the Battalion left Londonderry via Heysham for Bordon, where they joined the 3rd Infantry Brigade, and, quite appropriately, were quartered in Quebec Barracks. **1926**

During its stay in Ireland of close on five years the Battalion saw a lot of service rather out of the ordinary character, owing to the generally unsettled state of the country, and came through their varied experience with immense credit. Training and sport were carried on under difficult conditions, and the weather of Ireland seldom adds to the comfort either of soldiering or amusements. Under all circumstances the move to England and the neighbourhood of Sussex was not unpopular.

On March 4th the Battalion won the Aldershot Command Hockey Shield, but on the 17th, unfortunately, were beaten in the semi-final of the Army Hockey Cup.

3rd BATTALION.

The Militia of Sussex dates from the days when Julius Cæsar invaded Britain for the second time in 56 B.C. The tribal levies of this county fought the Roman Legionaries at their landing, and at the Battle of Hastings the men of Sussex took their share in the gallant attempt to stay the invading Normans. It is on record that in 1588 a Sussex Militia was called out to resist the Spanish Armada **56 B.C.** **1588**

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when the County raised, equipped and trained over
1591 2,000 foot and nearly 500 mounted men. In 1591 the Sussex Militia provided 300 men to fight under the Earl of Essex against the Spaniards. Again in
1596 1596 the County raised 6,000 men for service in France (Calais).

The Battalion, lately known as the 3rd (Special Reserve) Battalion but for the time being dormant, was the descendant of the Sussex Militia, which was
1778 etc. raised in the Rape of Chichester, March 26th, 1778, the Duke of Richmond being appointed Colonel on June 2nd in the same year. It was embodied during the American War of Independence, 1778-83; the French Revolutionary War, practically from 1792 to 1815; the Crimean War, 1854-56; the Indian Mutiny, 1857-61, and the South African War, 1899-1902, being one of the first battalions to be embodied for the last-mentioned campaign.

1814 In 1814 the Sussex Militia sent 3 officers and 100 men to the 2nd Provisional Battalion of Militia in the South of France.

1825 etc. In 1825 the title of the Battalion became the Sussex Light Infantry Militia, and in 1832 the Royal Sussex Light Infantry Militia, and in 1881 its title was changed to 3rd (Militia) Battalion The Royal Sussex Regiment, another change coming on June 14th, 1908, when it became 3rd (Special Reserve) Battalion The Royal Sussex Regiment.

1899 The 3rd Battalion was embodied for the South African War on December 11th, 1899; proceeded to South Africa March 25th, 1901, where it formed the garrison of Bloemfontein, the Capital of the Orange Free State. Whilst here, a company of Mounted Infantry was formed. On June 24th, 1902, the Battalion proceeded to St. Helena as escort to Boer prisoners, and returned to England for demobilization on September 10th, 1902.

3RD BATTALION IN THE GREAT WAR.

In the Great War the Battalion, though denied the privilege of going to the front as a battalion, had

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the onerous duty, as a reserve battalion, of training and despatching drafts for all and every battalion of the Royal Sussex Regiment, and also at times for battalions of other regiments as well. During the course of the war more than 15,000 men in this way passed through the 3rd Battalion. Anyone who had anything to do with draft-finding during the war can appreciate the difficulties, and at times the well-nigh heartbreaking work, which the training staffs of these battalions were called upon to carry out. There were no quiet times in peaceful parts of the line, no rest periods in back areas, making some change in the daily task, but day in and day out the same monotonous repetition of the same work. All honour is due to those who thus had to remain behind and do this necessary work, and all credit for the splendid way they did it, liable though they were sometimes to misunderstanding and abuse. The writer has no compunction in paying this tribute to those who had to remain behind, since he was never fated to serve in a reserve battalion, although from time to time he saw them at work. Everybody cannot be in the limelight, and there is always work to be done in the background by the small cogs in the wheel, without which the whole machine could never work at all.

The 3rd Battalion during the Great War served at Dover from August 9th, 1914, till May 14th, 1915, when it moved to Newhaven, where it remained till its personnel was absorbed by the 1st Battalion on August 4th, 1919. **1914-19**

Since then, in common with all other Special Reserve battalions, the 3rd Royal Sussex has gradually been allowed to disappear through the stress of national economy. May it rise again!

TRACING THE DESCENT OF TERRITORIAL BATTALIONS.

Territorial Battalions can only claim what can be called a continuous existence as a formed military

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unit from 1859. In that year, owing to a scare of invasion, great anxiety was felt in Great Britain as to whether a much larger force, than then existed, was not required for the defence of the Kingdom. This anxiety was the origin of the Volunteer movement, as it has since continued under various names down to the present day. There had been previous invasion scares, in the opening years of the nineteenth century and again in 1851, and their consequent Volunteer movements, but on the passing of the emergency the volunteer units then formed had been either disbanded or allowed gradually to die out.

In 1859 large numbers of men were enrolled all over the country, and Sussex was not backward in the movement. The numbers raised in Sussex in that year were: for artillery 571, and for the Rifle Corps, 1,937.

At first the infantry were organized in separate local units called Rifle Corps—as a rule consisting of one company each, though Cuckfield and Petworth started with two companies.

The movement began with the following Rifle Corps:—1st Brighton, 2nd Cuckfield, 3rd not at present traced but perhaps it was the second Cuckfield Corps, 4th Lewes, 5th East Grinstead, 6th Petworth, 7th Horsham, 8th Storrington, 9th Arundel, 10th Chichester, 11th Worthing, 12th Westbourne, 13th Hurstpierpoint, 14th Crawley, 15th Bognor, 16th Battle, 17th Etchingham, 18th Henfield, 19th Eastbourne. The full title of the above appears to have been 1st Corps of Sussex Rifle Volunteers, etc. In addition to the above there were in Sussex the following:—1st and 3rd Corps of Cinque Ports Rifle Volunteers, with headquarters at Hastings and Rye respectively.

When first raised each corps had the privilege of choosing its own uniform; thus some corps wore rifle green, some dark or light grey, and some scarlet. Each corps had also the right to make

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rules for the management of its property, finances and civil affairs and for securing the efficiency of its members. Some of these rules read somewhat quaintly at the present day. For instance, the members of Rifle Corps provided their own uniform, equipment, books and extra ammunition, and in addition paid an annual subscription of 10s. 6d. and upwards.

Fines were levied for sundry offences, as, for instance, for:—

	s.	d.
(1) Loading contrary to orders or firing out of turn	1	0
(2) Discharging a rifle through carelessness	2	6
(3) Pointing a firearm, loaded or unloaded, at any person, without orders	5	0
(4) Any irregularity in the ranks, such as talking or laughing ...	0	6

Corps were allowed to have supernumerary members and honorary members, who paid £1 1s. a year. They were allowed to wear the uniform of the corps, but were not expected to do much, or, even, any training. In some corps they were expected to provide and equip one or more substitutes.

Some corps admitted women as honorary members, their uniform being a sash or scarf of the uniform colours of the corps and the badge.

In 1860 the Rifle Corps were amalgamated into what were called Administrative Battalions. In Sussex were formed 1st, 2nd and 3rd Administrative Battalions of Sussex Rifle Volunteers and 1st Administrative Battalion of Cinque Ports Rifle Volunteers. **1860**

The reorganization at first was as follows:—

1st Administrative Battalion of Sussex Rifle Volunteers, with headquarters at Chichester, comprised the Rifle Corps of Arundel, Bognor, Chichester, Westbourne and Worthing.

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In 1865 the headquarters of this Battalion was moved to Worthing.

2nd Administrative Battalion of Sussex Rifle Volunteers, with headquarters at Petworth, comprised the Rifle Corps of Crawley, East Grinstead, Henfield, Horsham, Hurstpierpoint and Petworth.

3rd Administrative Battalion of Sussex Rifle Volunteers, with headquarters at Brighton, comprised the Rifle Corps of Battle, Brighton, Cuckfield, Eastbourne and Lewes.

1st Administrative Battalion of Cinque Ports Rifle Volunteers, with headquarters at Hastings, comprised the Rifle Corps of Hastings and Rye.

The above was the original organization of the Administrative Battalions of Sussex, but later changes were made, in the interest of efficiency and for convenience of working. For instance, the Battle, Eastbourne and Etchingham Companies were transferred to the Cinque Ports Battalion in 1861.

1874 On February 20th, 1874, the 1st and 2nd Administrative Battalions Sussex Rifle Volunteers were amalgamated, with headquarters at Worthing, and became the 1st Administrative Battalion of Sussex Rifle Volunteers.

1880 On February 7th, 1880, the title "Administrative" was dropped and the 1st Administrative Battalion became the 2nd Sussex Rifle Volunteers, the old 3rd Administrative Battalion becoming the 1st Sussex Rifle Volunteers.

1881 In 1881, under the Cardwell Scheme, Volunteer Battalions were affiliated to the County Regiment. The 1st Sussex Rifle Volunteers thus became the 1st V.B. The Royal Sussex Regiment, and the 2nd Sussex Rifle Volunteers became the 2nd V.B. The Royal Sussex Regiment. The Cinque Ports, however, was still allowed to retain its title as 1st Cinque Ports Volunteer Rifle Corps, retaining at the same time its grey uniform, scarlet facings, badges, etc.

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On April 1st, 1908, under the provisions of The Territorial and Reserve Forces Act of 1907, the 1st Volunteer Battalion was disbanded, most of the officers and men transferring to one or other of the Artillery, Engineer or other units of the Territorial Forces which were formed at Brighton. The 2nd Volunteer Battalion became the 4th Battalion (Territorial) The Royal Sussex Regiment, and the Cinque Ports Battalion became the 5th (Cinque Ports) Battalion (Territorial) The Royal Sussex Regiment. **1908**

On April 2nd, 1910, the headquarters of the 4th Battalion, which since 1874 had been at Worthing, were transferred to Horsham. **1910**

4th BATTALION.

The history of the 4th Battalion has been outlined above down to the changes brought about by The Territorial and Reserve Forces Act.

To retrace our steps for a few years, reference must be made to the part taken by the 4th Battalion in the Boer War. The war in South Africa, 1899-1902, had marked an important point in the history of the Volunteer Forces, as it was then that for the first time Volunteers had an opportunity of fighting for their Country. Sussex again was not behind other counties in patriotic effort, and, as soon as the 1st Battalion was on its way to South Africa, steps were taken to form a Volunteer Active Service Company to be attached to it. The 1st Active Service Company sailed from Southampton on March 10th, 1900, and arrived at the Cape on the 31st of the same month. It was under the command of Major Sir Walter G. Barttelot, Bart., of the 4th Battalion, which also found 42 other ranks out of the 116 other ranks of which the Company consisted. The Company took part in the actions of Welkom Farm, Zand River, Johannesburg, Diamond Hill, and Retief's Nek, and shared in the same forced marches and privations as did the 1st **1900**

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Battalion. Sixteen members of the 4th Battalion lie buried in South Africa, including Major Sir Walter Barttelot, who was killed in action at Retief's Nek. The 1st Active Service Company remained in South Africa till May 15th, 1901, when it returned to England.

1901-02 In the early part of 1901 a second Active Service Company was raised to relieve the 1st Active Service Company, and on April 27th it sailed for South Africa, under the command of Lieut. S. W. P. Beate of the 4th Battalion, and the Battalion also provided 22 other ranks. By the time this Company arrived in South Africa the guerilla stage of the war had been reached, and the Company had its full share of the trekking and fighting, which was continuous in this period of the campaign. Many of the men served as mounted infantry in Major du Moulin's Column, the doings of which are described in the narrative of the South African War (1st Battalion). The 2nd Active Service Company returned soon after peace was declared, arriving in England on June 26th, 1902. In the meanwhile a third Active Service Company had been raised and sailed for South Africa on April 17th—but only arrived in time to find the war in its last throes. It returned to England almost at once.

In recognition of the services of the Active Service Companies, the 4th Battalion was granted the Battle Honour, "South Africa, 1900-02."

In the Great War.

1914 The 4th Battalion mobilized August 5th, 1914, and after service at Newhaven proceeded to Bedford in May, 1915, and joined the 53rd (Welsh) Division.

1914 July 17th, 1915.—Embarked for Gallipoli, and landed at Suvla Bay on August 9th, two days after the original landing, and were at once detached from their division to fill a gap in the line, taking a very distinguished part in the anxious times of that short but desperate campaign which, but for more than a

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fair share of bad luck, might have ended in brilliant success.

December 12th.—Left Suvla Bay on the evacuation. **1916-17**

January to May, 1916.—In the Western Frontier of Egyptian Force.

June to November, 1916.—Suez Canal defences.

December, 1916, to February, 1917.—Advance across Sinai to El Arish.

March 26th and April 19th, 1917.—First and second Battles of Gaza.

April to October, 1917.—Before Gaza.

October to December, 1917.—Advance through Beersheba, Hebron, Bethlehem to Jerusalem.

January to May, 1918.—In the line north of **1918** Jericho and north of Jerusalem.

June 16th, 1918.—Embarked for France.

July 18th, 1918.—Took part with the French in first French counter offensive near Soissons. The Division was thanked and commended by General Mangin in a special order of the French Tenth Army.

August to November, 1918.—Kemmel Hill, Wytschaete Ridge, River Lys.

1919.—Rhine Army. **1919**

Such briefly were the services of the 4th Battalion, but behind this short record lie unchronicled services second to those of no unit in the Great War.

5th BATTALION.

The 5th (Cinque Ports) Battalion of The Royal Sussex Regiment has a history probably as old as that of any Territorial battalion in the country. From the days of the old Trained Bands the organization has continued in some shape or form as Fencibles, Yeomen, Infantry, Mixed Force of Guns, Yeomen and Infantry, Rifle Clubs, Volunteers and Territorials.

In 1803, under the title of the 1st Battalion Cinque **1803** Ports Volunteers, a unit was raised and com-

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manded by the Right Honourable William Pitt when Warden of the Cinque Ports.

In the early days the Warden was in actual command, but for the last hundred years or so the holder of the post of Warden of the Cinque Ports has always been Honorary Colonel of the Battalion.

The recruiting ground of the Battalion originally comprised all the Cinque Ports and their neighbourhood, but by degrees it became purely a Sussex unit, with headquarters at Hastings as the premier Cinque Port.

1822-59 From 1822 to 1851 it existed only in the form of Rifle Clubs, but in the latter year, owing to an invasion scare, a Volunteer Battalion was reformed, the Great Duke of Wellington, Warden of the Cinque Ports at the time, being Honorary Colonel. In 1852 it reverted again to the Rifle Club status, until 1859, when a battalion was again formed, under the title of The Cinque Ports Rifle Volunteers. The uniform was grey, facings scarlet with black lacing. Badge, the Arms of the Cinque Ports.

1859 From 1859 the existence of the Battalion as a battalion has been continuous to the present day.

1861 In 1861 the title was changed to 1st Administrative Battalion of the 35th (Cinque Ports) Regiment of Rifle Volunteers, the facings being changed to blue, but the rest of the uniform and appointments were retained.

1880 In 1880 the title was again altered to 1st Cinque Ports Volunteer Rifles.

1881 In 1881, under the Cardwell scheme, it became one of the three Volunteer battalions affiliated to the Royal Sussex Regiment, but as a special favour was allowed to retain its title, uniform and badges. In 1898, however, it had to resign its grey uniform.

1900-02 During the South African War the Battalion furnished its quota to the 1st, 2nd and 3rd Volunteer Active Service Companies which in succession served in South Africa with the 1st Battalion between 1900 and 1902, taking part in the actions of

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Welkom Farm, Zand River, Johannesburg, Diamond Hill, and Relief's Nek. For these services the 5th Battalion received the Battle Honour, "South Africa, 1900-02."

In 1908, under the Territorial Forces Act, the title of the Battalion became 5th (Cinque Ports) Battalion The Royal Sussex Regiment, the badge of the Cinque Ports being retained. **1908**

In 1909, Colours, the gift of the ladies of Sussex, were presented to the Battalion at Windsor by H.M. the King. **1909**

5TH BATTALION IN THE GREAT WAR.

The Battalion was mobilized on August 4th, 1914, and, after service at Dover and the Tower of London, embarked for France on February 18th, 1915, and on proceeding to the front found themselves in the same Brigade as the 2nd Battalion, namely, in the 2nd Brigade, 1st Division, which at the moment was enjoying a rest after the rigours of the winter 1914-15 in the trenches. **1914** **1915**

On March 10th the 5th Battalion, as part of the 2nd Brigade, was in Corps reserve for the Battle of Neuve Chapelle, but was not called upon.

On March 18th the Battalion went into trenches for the first time on its own in the neighbourhood of Festubert. Tours in and out of the trenches followed until May 9th, when the Battalion took part in the Battle of the Aubers Ridge, when they fought with extreme gallantry in an attempt to break through the German lines—the Battalion suffering over 200 casualties.

Further turns in the trenches followed until, on August 20th, orders were received to proceed to the Doullens area to join the 48th Division—with which the Battalion was destined to remain until the end of the war. The 48th was composed entirely of Territorials, and the 5th found that they were to act as Pioneer Battalion to the Division. Pioneers, although not unknown in the Indian Army, were a

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new departure in the British Army. A compromise between infantry and engineers, the ordinary infantry training has to be kept up, as pioneers are always liable to be used as infantry in an emergency. On the other hand, the duties of pioneers as such are many and various—construction and maintenance of defence systems of trenches, including reserve and communication trenches—strong points—making and repair of roads, etc., much of the work being close up to the front line, necessitating almost continuous night work. The work was very heavy and exacting, and a continual drain on the Battalion, especially as it was kept in the forward areas longer than the infantry, being lent to other divisions which had no pioneer battalion of their own.

Briefly, the Great War services of the 5th Battalion were as follows:—

On the Somme they were, as usual with pioneers, in the line practically the whole time, taking their part in the following actions:—

1916 1916: Bazentin, Pozières, Thiepval, Ancre, Albert, Flers-Courcelette.

1917 1917: Third Battle of Ypres, Pilckem Ridge, Langemarck, Menin Road Ridge, Polygon Wood, Broodseinde, Poelcappelle.

Their time in the Ypres sector was perhaps the hardest that the Battalion went through. Work was very hard—most of it carried out at night and under heavy shell fire—whilst weather was of the worst. When the 48th Division went out for a rest the pioneers would be lent to another division in the line, so that they were practically always in the thick of things. When they did get out for a so-called rest they were in places where they were always liable to shell fire and bombing raids.

On October 14th the Battalion left the Ypres area and moved to the Vimy Ridge, at the time a quiet sector and a welcome rest to the Battalion, who during their stay in the Ypres sector, although not

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there as a fighting unit, suffered casualties of upwards of 40 officers and 300 other ranks.

In the middle of November, 1917, the 48th Division received orders to proceed to Italy, and accordingly, on the 23rd, the 5th Battalion entrained for the neighbourhood of Marostica, the journey taking six days.

In Italy the Battalion's duties were much the same as in France; but, of course, the nature of the country in which fighting took place was widely different—in Italy being mainly rough and very mountainous.

The following were the localities in which the Battalion served:—

1918 1918: Piave, Vittorio Veneto.
November 3rd: entered Austrian territory at Vanezza.

By November 9th the Battalion returned to Granezza, and began the work of "clearing up"—salving valuable war stores—until November 20th, when they were withdrawn from the war area.

1919 Demobilization, by categories, began in January, 1919, and was practically complete by the end of February.

On March 24th the Cadre entrained for Home, eventually arriving at Hastings on the evening of March 31st, where they received a rousing reception—nobly borne, despite the pangs of hunger, from which by some misunderstanding they were unwitting sufferers.

1920 On February 17th, 1920, the Battalion was reorganized under the Command of Lieut.-Colonel G. L. Courthope, M.C., T.D., M.P.

1925 Under the General Order of 1925 under which the Colours of Territorial units were ordered to conform to the Colours of their Regular battalions, special exception was made whereby the 5th Battalion retain on their Regimental Colour the Arms of the Cinque Ports.

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6th BATTALION

1912 The 6th (Cyclist) Battalion The Royal Sussex Regiment was raised at Brighton, and formally recognized by the War Office as part of the Territorial Army on July 12th, 1912.

IN THE GREAT WAR.

1914-19 The 6th (Cyclist) Battalion furnished three battalions during the war. The 1st/6th was employed mainly on coast defence work in Sussex and the Eastern Counties until the time when such work was taken over by the National Guard and Volunteers. From that time the Battalion, who had meanwhile been moved over to Ireland, was chiefly occupied in furnishing drafts to France, and in what was practically police work in Ireland, where it remained until demobilized at the end of 1919. In view of the manifold duties allotted to the Battalion from time to time the difficulties of training were always great, and the efficiency of the various drafts reflected high credit upon the officers and non-commissioned officers of the unit.

2nd/6th BATTALION.

1914 In October, 1914, the 2nd/6th was formed, in the first place, as cyclists, and did duty at various places
1915 on the East Coast. In November, 1915, orders were received to hand in cycles and proceed to Salisbury Plain for training in infantry work. After a period
1916 of intensive training it embarked on February 3rd, 1916, for India. After a stay of eight months at Bangalore the 2nd/6th were ordered to the North-West Frontier, but owing to the withdrawal of the tribesmen the expected operations failed to
1917 materialize. In May, 1917, however, the Battalion joined the Waziristan Field Force against the Mahsuds. Severe fighting and much strenuous work was experienced, with casualties amounting to 3 killed (including 1 officer) and 35 wounded.

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The 2nd/6th remained in India till November, 1919, distinguishing themselves considerably in the field of sport, winning several brigade and station tournaments and reaching the semi-final in the Calcutta Cup in 1916. At boxing in 1918 the Battalion provided the winner of the light-weights in the All-India Boxing Championships. **1917-19**

The Battalion arrived Home on December 9th, and was finally disbanded at Brighton on December 15th, 1919.

Before leaving India a memorial was erected at Napier Barracks, Lahore Cantonment, to the memory of 4 officers and 56 other ranks of the Battalion who died for their Country during its tour of service in India.

3rd/6th BATTALION.

The 3rd/6th was raised at Brighton in May, 1915, and served at Windsor and in the Southern Counties, and on August 31st was amalgamated with the 4th Reserve Battalion The Royal Sussex Regiment. **1915**

SOME REMARKS ON SERVICE BATTALIONS.

The story of the raising and training of the Service Battalions which formed a considerable part of the augmentation of the Army from the early days of the war was very much the same for all battalions, and it would be hard to exaggerate the difficulties with which they were confronted. However, all ranks faced their task with keenness and determination, but it was an uphill game, and at times somewhat disheartening.

The senior officers in the first place were drawn chiefly from the Reserve, many of them, to put it mildly, rather out of date. Others were officers surplus from units of the Expeditionary Force, or on leave from units abroad. These were, of course, up to date and invaluable as a backbone. The juniors were either partially experienced, from

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service in the Officers Training Corps, or else youngsters who showed promise of making useful officers. The warrant and non-commissioned officers were obtained in much the same way as the officers, and comprised men of experience, others of little experience, and some with no previous military training—but chosen as men of likely promise.

As for the men, they were similarly constituted—many old soldiers joined up whose service was in some cases quite recent, and in others rather out of date. These were invaluable as a stiffening. All ranks, however, were as keen as mustard, and determined to make the best of the circumstances.

The difficulties of accommodating the new troops after the existing barracks were filled did not facilitate matters in the early days. Profiteering contractors saw to it that the huts that were rushed up were as jerry-built as it was possible to make them with any chance of passing the inspection, which perhaps was somewhat superficial at first The necessity of billeting large numbers of troop did not ease the task of Commanding Officers.

The deficiency of arms, equipment, and uniform clothing was a constant source of difficulty and discouragement, and required the fine sense of patriotism and the saving grace of humour which imbued all ranks to carry through the training to that high standard that it ultimately attained, and which made the Service Battalions that arrived at the front from 1915 and onwards a just cause of admiration for those who saw them.

The above remarks apply equally to the battalions raised to augment the old Territorial Army.

7th BATTALION

IN THE GREAT WAR.

1914 The 7th Battalion was raised on August 19th, 1914, and after training at Colchester, Shorncliffe
1915 and Aldershot went to France on May 31st, 1915, as part of the 36th Brigade, 12th Division.

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After the usual tuition preliminaries they occupied their first trenches near Armentières, and remained thereabouts till the end of September. On the 28th of that month they took over trenches opposite Hulluch, where they came in for some very difficult digging operations. In mid-October they found themselves in trenches in the same locality with the 2nd Battalion on their right, and a little later a turn came in the Hohenzollern Redoubt north of Hulluch sector, where conditions were very bad; trench mortar and shelling activity on both sides very heavy, the state of the trenches, owing to the excessive rains, being indescribable.

On Christmas Eve "D" Company had a bad time, a hostile mine being blown up under them, resulting in heavy crater fighting.

Early in 1916 the 7th Battalion was again in Hohenzollern Redoubt, and had what was undoubtedly the stiffest fighting they had experienced as yet. Following the explosion of four huge mines there was much severe crater fighting. Some ground was gained by the Battalion leading to very strong counter-attacks with very bitter fighting on both sides, the barrages being particularly heavy. The Germans, however, were repulsed on each occasion, and in spite of heavy casualties the Battalion held fast to the ground gained, and earned special commendation from the Corps Commander. 1916

Towards the end of April, when in support close up, the Battalion were very heavily shelled, and came in for a very strong cloud of gas, the result of an attack made on the first line. The gas was as thick as a London fog, and the Battalion wore gas masks for half an hour. No casualties were sustained, and, as this was their first experience of gas warfare, it speaks well for the Battalion gas training.

In June, 1916, the Battalion were moved to the neighbourhood of Amiens, and the Battle of the Somme soon began. On July 7th they took part in

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the capture of Ovillers la Boisselle—a severe fight, reaching their objective after there had been two failures by other troops during the preceding week. Great credit was given them for this fine achievement.

In August the Battalion took part in several successful attacks, on one occasion in conjunction with Australian troops.

In October came more attacks in the Flers and Gueudecourt areas.

1917 In April, 1917, came the Battle of Arras, when they formed part of the attack south of the Scarpe, when great progress was made with few casualties—followed by further attacks south of Monchy le Preux.

In May, June and July the Battalion had further spells of severe fighting in the Monchy area.

In November, following intensive training with tanks, a move was made to Gonnelieu, to form up for the Battle of Cambrai, in which the Battalion assisted the capture of the Hindenburg outpost and main line near La Vaquerie, and on November 30th were heavily counter-attacked all along the line, and there was very severe fighting, in which the Battalion greatly distinguished themselves.

1918 In March and April, 1918, the Battalion had further severe fighting in Aveluy Wood on the Aisne, also in the Bouzincourt Valley. In all this critical fighting they did extremely well, and were specially complimented by the Brigade and Divisional Commanders.

Further fighting followed in June and July in the Bouzincourt and Toutencourt areas.

In August and September, with the 18th Division, to which the 36th Brigade was lent, the Battalion took part in the Battle of Amiens, and were in action in many places, including Morlancourt, Becourt, Hargicourt, and Nurlu, in all of which fighting great progress was made.

On September 12th the Battle of Epéhy began, and lasted for ten days. Again good progress resulted.

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At the end of the same month the Battalion was transferred to the VIIIth Corps and went into the line south of Lens, and took part in the victorious advance in October. There was some stiff fighting for the crossing of the canal at Auby, and also near Château L'Abbaye. Soon after came the Armistice, and gradual demobilization.

The cadre returned to England in June, 1919, for disbandment at Chichester, where they had a great reception from the Mayor and Inhabitants. **1919**

8th BATTALION

In the Great War.

The 8th Battalion, during its early training, was converted into a Pioneer Battalion, and served as such throughout the war. Though a Pioneer Battalion, it always had to maintain its efficiency as a fighting unit, and be prepared to take its place in the line when required. As a fighting battalion it is believed it never actually went "over the top," but, especially in 1918 during the German push between Armentières and Bethune, the 8th did its full share of defensive fighting, and highly distinguished itself in the strenuous work of those anxious days. **1914-19**

Earlier the 8th took a splendid part in the great Somme fighting in 1916, and suffered very heavy casualties.

In one of the despatches of the Commander-in-Chief, British Expeditionary Force, in 1916, the services of some half-dozen battalions were specially brought to notice by the Commander-in-Chief, and the 8th Battalion Royal Sussex Regiment was one of the battalions so distinguished.

As a pioneer battalion the 8th Battalion earned a very fine reputation in the 18th Division. It did an enormous amount of work of various sorts, from simple trench-digging to mined dug-outs, including the repair of roads, the laying of tracks behind an

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advance, the construction of light railways, building shelters and billets, officers' schools, and providing for the comfort of front line troops in many ways. Its work was always in the danger zone, and many a time it cut new front lines, covered only by a detachment from the troops in occupation of the front trenches. Its work, moreover, was not confined to the 18th Division, the 8th being frequently lent to other divisions in the front line when the 18th was back at rest.

9th BATTALION

IN THE GREAT WAR.

1914 The Battalion was raised at Shoreham in September, 1914, and after training in England
1915 arrived in France on September 1st, 1915, in the 73rd Brigade of the 24th Division. They were early in action, taking part in the Battle of Loos (September 25th, 1915), in which they lost 19 officers and 362 other ranks.

1916-18 The Battalion later took part in the following battles:—Somme, 1916, 1918; Delville Wood; Arras, 1917; Vimy, 1917; Messines, 1917; Ypres, 1917; Pilckem; Cambrai, 1918; St. Quentin; Rosières; Hindenburg Line; Selle; Sambre.

Lieutenant (later Captain) E. A. McNair, of the 9th Battalion, gained the Victoria Cross in February, 1916, for his gallant defence of a crater following the explosion of a mine in which the majority of his men were buried. The remnants defended the crater with the greatest gallantry, repulsing all attacks. Captain McNair was subsequently killed with this Battalion.

Lieut.-Colonel M. V. B. Hill, D.S.O., M.C., of the Royal Fusiliers, commanded the 9th Battalion from November, 1916, till the end of the war, in a most distinguished manner, gaining two bars to his Distinguished Service Order.

1919 The cadre of the Battalion returned to England in June, 1919, and was demobilized on June 30th.

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10th BATTALION

IN THE GREAT WAR.

Was raised in November, 1914, by 500 men transferred from the 3rd Battalion, then quartered at Dover. It never went overseas, but acted as Reserve Battalion for the 11th, 12th and 13th Battalions. It had the same chequered career through which went many another Home Service battalion. Starting life as a 2nd or 3rd Line Territorial Battalion, a Home Service Battalion, it became in turn a Service Battalion, then a Training Reserve Battalion, and finally a Young Soldiers' Battalion, quietly in each doing its little part in the great machine. **1914**

11th, 12th, 13th BATTALIONS

IN THE GREAT WAR.

The 11th, 12th and 13th (Southdown) Battalions were raised in the autumn of 1915, and, after training at Witley Camp, arrived in France on March 5th, 1916, forming part of the 116th Brigade, 39th Division. They took over trenches in the Fleurbaix sector on March 20th, and remained in the same neighbourhood until the middle of August, doing ordinary trench tours in the Givenchy, Cuinchy, Ferme du Bois, and Richebourg sections, and took part in an attack on Aubers Ridge on June 30th, when the 11th Battalion had upwards of 400 casualties. **1915** **1916**

A move was made to the Somme front, arriving there in mid-August, where they took part in the Battle of Pozières on September 3rd. They remained in about this neighbourhood (Mailly Maillet, Auchenvillers) until November 17th, when they left the Somme front for Poperinghe. On one occasion on the Somme the 11th Battalion spent thirty-five continuous days in the trenches without relief.

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At the Battle of the Somme, Company Sergeant-Major N. V. Carter (12th Battalion) gained the Victoria Cross for gallant leadership at the attack on the Boar's Head, but at the cost of his life.

A month's training followed the arrival of the Southdown Battalions at Poperinghe, after which, on December 11th, 1916, they went into the line in the Ypres sector. They remained in this sector,
1918 in and out of the trenches, until January 26th, 1918, a very long tour in so strenuous a part of the front. At the end of January, 1918, these battalions moved southwards to the neighbourhood of Peronne.

From February 8th, 1918, the 12th Battalion began sending drafts to other Battalions of the Regiment, and by March 1st the 12th Battalion had ceased to exist as a battalion, in pursuance of the policy of reducing the strength of brigades from four to three battalions.

The 12th Battalion took part in the following battles of the Regimental Honours:—

Ypres, 1917; Somme, 1916; Pozières; Thiepval; Ancre Heights; Ancre, 1916; Pilckem; Langemarck, 1917; Menin Road; Polygon Wood; Passchendaele.

On March 15th, 1918, the 11th and 13th Battalions were in the Hem sector, south of the Somme. They there took part and suffered very heavy losses in the bitter fighting of the struggle to stem the great German offensive which began on March 21st, both battalions practically being wiped out. The survivors of the two battalions returned to the Ypres sector at the beginning of April, and the 13th Battalion was put into the line close to Kemmel, where, in the great German attack on April 9th, what remained of the Battalion was destroyed, and after this the 13th as a battalion took no further part in the war, the personnel being absorbed into other units.

On May 20th a Cadre was formed from the remains of the 11th Battalion, with some few survivors of the 13th, and this Cadre was employed for the instruction of American units.

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On June 30th the Cadre of the 11th Battalion was transferred to Aldershot to reorganize for service in North Russia. On September 19th, 1918, they sailed from Leith, and ten days later landed at Petchanga. The Battalion remained in North **1919** Russia until August, 1919, when they returned to England after gaining considerable credit for their good services under very difficult circumstances and conditions.

The 11th Battalion was demobilized at Shoreham on August 31st, 1919.

Lieut.-Colonel C. W. Millward, D.S.O., who commanded the 11th Battalion with distinction during the latter part of the war, joined the Battalion as a private and passed through the various ranks until he arrived at the command—a career of which any man might be proud.

THE SUSSEX YEOMANRY

In the Great War.

The Sussex Regiment of Yeomanry was first **1902** raised in 1902, although a Sussex Yeomanry had existed at the time of the Napoleonic Wars.

Embodied for service in the Great War in August, **1914-17** 1914, it went to Gallipoli in September, 1915. After serving as dismounted cavalry at Cape Helles (1915), on the Suez Canal (1916), and Western Desert (1916-18), it was dismounted and formed into the 16th (Yeomanry) Battalion, The Royal Sussex Regiment in February, 1917, and took a leading part in the advance into Palestine from the Second Battle of Gaza to the capture of Jerusalem, with the 74th (Yeomanry) Division.

In April, 1918, it was transferred to the Western **1918** Front, and in September, 1918, had a very strenuous time on the Somme, where it greatly distinguished itself, subsequently advancing from Bethune to Lille and beyond. Demobilized in June, 1919.

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On the reconstruction of the Territorial Army the Sussex Yeomanry became merged in the 98th (Surrey and Sussex Yeomanry, Queen Mary's) Field Brigade Royal Artillery, Territorial Army, having been one of the two Yeomanry regiments who first volunteered to undertake conversion to the Artillery arm and thus patriotically play their part in the reorganization which for reasons of economy was necessitated after the Great War.

1914-19 The 2nd/1st Sussex Yeomanry was formed in August, 1914, and served as a unit on the East Coast defences, and subsequently in Ireland until demobilized in April, 1919. In September, 1915, it furnished a very large draft to the 1st Sussex Yeomanry, and in September, 1916, a draft of over 400 to the 10th Battalion The Queen's (Royal West Surrey) Regiment, and for the rest of the war continued to furnish drafts to these two battalions, another instance of the close connection which has long existed between the Royal Sussex Regiment and our near neighbours "The Queen's."

1915-16 The 3rd/1st Sussex Yeomanry was formed in July, 1915, as a draft-finding unit for the 1st/1st and 2nd/1st. Unfortunately, in December, 1916, the men were drafted to many other units, and in that month the 3rd/1st was broken up, to which date it had supplied over 1,500 men to the 1st/1st and 2nd/1st.

A very full and interesting account of the services of the Sussex Yeomanry in the Great War is to be found in "The Sussex Yeomanry and 16th (Sussex Yeomanry) Battalion, Royal Sussex Regiment, 1914-1919," by Lieut.-Colonel H. I. Powell-Edwards, D.S.O., published by Andrew Melrose, Ltd., London, which is well illustrated and contains a roll of all ranks who served during the war.

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51st, 52nd, and 53rd BATTALIONS.

In the Great War.

The Battalions which finally became the 51st, 52nd and 53rd Battalions The Royal Sussex Regiment, after having already gone through several reorganizations and changes of title, had, on September 6th, 1917, become respectively the 51st, 52nd and 53rd (Graduated) Battalions The Royal Sussex Regiment. The scheme of Graduated Battalions was devised to train the boys who, on attaining 18 years of age, were called up for training, during the twelve months which must elapse before, at nineteen years of age, they were deemed eligible to be sent abroad on active service. Graduated Battalions were roughly organized as follows:—On being called up at the age of eighteen, 200 or so lads would be posted to, say, No. 1 Company, and would serve together in that company throughout their twelve months' training. No. 2 Company would consist of 200 lads who had already done three months' training, No. 3 Company six months' training, and No. 4 Company nine months' training. In each company a proportion of the lads received promotion. **1917-19**

The drill, manœuvre, musketry, turn-out and conduct of these boys' battalions were of a very high standard. The lads were extraordinarily keen, and the improvement in the young soldiers' physique and stamina, under training, was perfectly wonderful, and caused regret that some such organization could not be perpetuated in peace time to the improvement of the physique and discipline of the nation.

On February 17th, 1919, the title "Graduated" was dropped, and on or about March 10th the three battalions went to Germany for service with the Army of the Rhine as the 51st, 52nd and 53rd Battalions The Royal Sussex Regiment. It is believed that all these were disbanded at Ripon about the end of August, 1919.

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THE GREAT WAR.

"OUR GLORIOUS DEAD."

"Their name liveth for evermore."

1st	Battalion	...	44	12th	Battalion	...	527
2nd	,,		1,723	13th	,,	...	729
3rd	,,	...	47	14th	,,	...	4
4th	,,	...	447	15th	,,	...	5
5th	,,	...	304	16th	,,	...	163
6th	,,	...	76	17th	,,	...	26
7th	,,	...	998	51st	,,	...	7
8th	,,	...	215	52nd	,,	...	3
9th	,,	...	764	53rd	,,	...	11
10th	,,	...	8	Depot	,,	...	7
11th	,,	...	692				
					Total	...	6,800

The Chapel of St. George in Chichester Cathedral, restored and beautified, has been dedicated to the Glory of God and in Memory of the Officers, Warrant Officers, Non-Commissioned Officers and Men of all Battalions of The Royal Sussex Regiment who gave their lives in the Great War. The names of all are recorded on panels, one or more for each Battalion, round the walls of the Chapel.

"THEY WHOM THE MEMORIAL COMMEMORATES
"WERE NUMBERED AMONG THOSE WHO, AT THE CALL
"OF KING AND COUNTRY, LEFT ALL THAT WAS DEAR
"TO THEM, ENDURED HARDNESS, FACED DANGER,
"AND FINALLY PASSED OUT OF THE SIGHT OF MEN
"BY THE PATH OF DUTY AND SELF-SACRIFICE,
"GIVING UP THEIR OWN LIVES THAT OTHERS MIGHT
"LIVE IN FREEDOM.

"LET THOSE WHO COME AFTER SEE TO IT THAT
"THEIR NAMES BE NOT FORGOTTEN."

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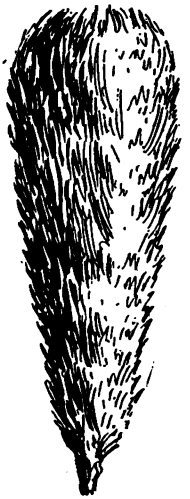

PLUME,

Believed to be a representation of the original "Roussillon Plume,"—the "Plumet blanc" of the old French Army.

THE REGIMENTAL BADGES.

1. *The Regimental Distinction*, as shown in the Army List, is "The White Roussillon Plume." This plume was given to the old 35th Foot in recognition of its services at the Battle of Quebec, when it engaged and severely defeated the French Royal Roussillon Regiment of Infantry, who wore in their headgear the "Plumet blanc" of the French Army. The plume as it appears in the badges, etc., of to-day is not a copy of the plume anciently worn by the Royal Roussillon Regiment, nor of that originally worn by the 35th Foot. When the South African War Memorial, erected on the sea front at Brighton, was in course of design, the architect, Mr. (now Sir) J. W. Simpson, went to much pains to find out the exact form of the old plume, and the

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result of his investigations is shown in the plumes which serve as ornaments on either side of the shield upon which appears the Crest of the Regiment, high up in the front of the pedestal of the above-mentioned memorial. It will be seen that the plume there portrayed is much more like the plume borne to-day by the Royal Scots Greys, and of the different Regiments of Foot Guards, rather than the species of ostrich plume which in varying degrees of timidity peeps out from behind the different crests and badges used to-day by the Regiment.

Within living memory permission has been granted to more than one Line Regiment to take into wear plumes which had anciently been worn by their predecessors. It would be a splendid thing if a similar privilege could be obtained by the Royal Sussex Regiment to wear again the Roussillon plume. It is true that the only opportunity of wearing it at present would be in the helmet when on Foreign service, but when the time comes for full-dress to be worn again at Home, the Regiment would come into its own again.

2. The badge worn by the 35th Foot up to 1881.

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FRENCH GRENADIER.

Showing a French Grenadier of about 1790, wearing in his hat the *plumet blanc* of the French Army, from which our Roussillon Plume is derived. (*From an old print.*)

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ASTOR, LENOX AND
TILDEN FOUNDATIONS

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1854—61.

3. The badge worn by the 3rd Bengal European Regiment up to 1861.

1861—81.

4. The badge worn by the 107th Foot up to 1881.

5. *The Cap Badge.*—In 1879 permission was granted for a badge consisting of the Garter Star with Roussillon plume to be worn on the officers' forage caps. In different forms this badge is still worn on the caps and collars of mess and service jackets by all Battalions of the Regiment except the 5th (Cinque Ports) Battalion, which retains its old badge, the Arms of the Cinque Ports.

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Cap Badge.
Crest, 1st Battalion.

The origin of the Garter in the Regimental Badge is, unfortunately, wrapped in mystery. Various explanations have been offered, but, as they are all founded on guess-work, no use would be served by going further into the matter, except to say that within living memory there has always been a tradition that the Garter Star is in some way associated with that Duke of Richmond who in the early years of the nineteenth century was Colonel of the 35th Foot, and who was a Knight of the Garter.

The right of the Royal Sussex Regiment to the use of the Garter Star in its badges has been questioned, unofficially, from time to time, but the fact remains that authority for the Star was definitely granted, at all events in 1879, as mentioned above, and that it duly appears in the authorized sealed pattern at the War Office.

At the same time it is a pity that an original grant of the Garter Star cannot be traced, and it can only be hoped that at some future time a record may turn up which will substantiate the claim of the Regiment to the right to wear it, dating back considerably further than 1879.

It may be noted here that the crests, etc., now in use do not give a correct rendering of the shape and

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shading of the "Garter Star." The star given on the title page of this book is correct for shading, but the shape of the Star is not quite right.

Collar Badge
1881.

6. *The Collar Badge.*—This was worn on the collars of full dress scarlet tunics, the old red serge jackets (which preceded khaki as drill order), and on blue serges. The same design appears on the officers' buttons.

The badge consists of a Maltese Cross overlaying a Roussillon plume. On the centre of the cross is superimposed the central part of the Garter Star, *i.e.*, St. George's Cross surrounded by the Garter, and around this is added a wreath of laurels.

The Maltese Cross is an inheritance from the 3rd Bengal Europeans, to whom it was granted in 1854, and handed down by them to the 107th Foot. Contrary to popular report, there is no connection whatever between the Maltese Cross of the Regimental Badge and the fact that the 35th Foot took part in the Capture of Malta in 1800. The Maltese Cross was not borne in any shape or form by the 35th prior to the amalgamation of 1881.

The selection of a Maltese Cross as a badge for the 3rd Bengal Europeans appears to have been entirely fortuitous. Some badge had to be chosen, and it happened to be the Maltese Cross.

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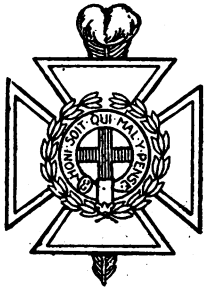

Crest, 2nd Battalion.

The form of the cross has been changed from time to time so far as its use as a Regimental Crest is concerned, the design shown above having been adopted in 1904 by the 2nd Battalion as its crest, and is still in use by that Battalion.

Incidentally it may be mentioned that the Maltese Cross in use in the badges, etc., of the Regiment has never, either officially or otherwise, conformed to the true pattern of the Maltese Cross as it is known in Malta. The true Maltese Cross has the arms much narrower and longer than any pattern used by the Regiment.

EXPLANATION OF THE NAME "ROUSSILLON."

The following particulars regarding the history of the Royal Roussillon Regiment of the French Army were contributed to Vol. 15, p. 23 of the *Roussillon Gazette* by the late Major-General J. C. Young, C.B., Colonel of the Regiment.

THE ROYAL ROUSSILLON REGIMENT.

The corner of France which lies in the angle of the sea and the mountains on the Spanish frontier at the eastern extremity of the Pyrenees is known on modern maps as the *Departément Orientales*. Locally, one seldom hears the name, however. Historically, and in the hearts and on the lips of the people, it is still Roussillon. This name it came by

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in 1659, when the Treaty of the Pyrenees gave to the French that portion of the Spanish Province of Catalonia lying north of the Pyrenees. Roussillon it remained until the name-changing period following the French Revolution, when the present political divisions, called *departéments*, replaced many of the old names of provinces in France. In the records of regiments of the French Army, 1659-1900, the history of the Royal Roussillon Regiment is given as follows:—

54 Regiment of Infantry of the Line.
Battle honours emblazoned on the colours:—

Alkamer, 1759.	Austerlitz, 1805.
Friedland, 1807.	Kabylie, 1857.

Originally raised in 1657 from levies made in Roussillon and in Catalonia, it was known as the Catalan-Mazarin Regiment. In 1661 it became the Royal Catalan Regiment, and in 1667 the Royal Roussillon Regiment. In the year 1791 the territorial title was replaced by a number, and the Roussillon Regiment appears to-day in the French Army List as the 54th Regiment of Infantry of the Line.

TITLES OF THE REGIMENT SINCE 1701.

1st Battalion.

1701.—The Earl of Donegall's Regiment raised.
1706.—Gorges' Regiment.
1717.—Otway's Regiment.
1751.—35th Regiment of Foot. (Most of the old plans of the Battle of Quebec, however, refer to the Regiment still as Otway's.)
1782.—35th The Dorsetshire Regiment. (Some of the silver plate in possession of the Officers' Mess of the Depot still retains the inscription "Dorsetshire.")
1804.—35th The Sussex Regiment.
1832.—35th The Royal Sussex Regiment.

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1881.—Under the Cardwell Scheme the numerals were dropped, so the 35th Foot became the 1st Battalion The Royal Sussex Regiment.

2nd Battalion.

1853.—The 3rd Regiment of Bengal European Infantry, raised as a unit of the Honourable East India Company's Service.

1860.—The 107th Regiment of Foot (Bengal Infantry) on the taking over by the British Government of the Army of the Honourable East India Company.

1881.—Under the Cardwell Scheme the 107th Foot became the 2nd Battalion The Royal Sussex Regiment.

NICKNAMES.

About 1701.—"The Belfast Regiment"—from the fact that the Regiment was raised there.

About 1702.—"The Orange Lilies"—from the orange facings granted as a special favour by King William III. Another derivation sometimes given is from the connection of the orange facings and the Lilies of France on the flag taken from the French Roussillon Regiment at Quebec.

About 1885 onwards.—"The Haddocks." This not very harmonious name, mostly heard as a football "battle-cry," would not be mentioned here were it not that it has received notice in print in a recent semi-official publication. It is derived from a facetious perversion of the dolphins in the Arms of Brighton.

Another battle-cry might be mentioned here, "The Doughs," derived from an old-fashioned pudding, the "Sussex dough," very popular in the County.

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1914.—"The Iron Regiment," first applied by the Germans, as reported by a German prisoner taken at the First Battle of Ypres by the 2nd Battalion.

THE REGIMENTAL MARCHES.

The quick-step of the 1st Battalion, officially known as "The Royal Sussex," is believed to be a French tune, and tradition has it that it was adopted by the 35th Foot at the time that the Roussillon plume was granted as a distinction after the Battle of Quebec. Whether there was any connection between the tune and the Royal Roussillon Regiment of the French Army is at present uncertain.

The slow-march of the 1st Battalion, which at one time was invariably played by the band before the quick-step and the National Anthem, at the end of a programme, was inherited from the 35th, but nothing is known of its origin or history.

The quick-step of the 2nd Battalion, "The Lass of Richmond Hill," was received down from the 107th Foot. The Lass of Richmond Hill was a Miss Frances I'Anson, of Hill House, Richmond, Yorkshire. The music was written by James Hook, and the words of the ballad by one Leonard McNally, who married the young lady. It cannot be found that there was any particular reason why this tune was adopted by the 107th Foot. Probably it was chosen by some Commanding Officer because it was a favourite tune of his. Such, it is believed, is the true explanation for the adoption of their regimental marches by many regiments. A case in point is the XIVth Hussars, whose quick-step is the same as that of our 1st Battalion. Enquiry has been made, and the XIVth can offer no explanation, historical or traditional, other than that "the tune was most likely chosen by some past Commanding Officer because he liked it."

Now we come to what, if it is permissible to coin a word, may be described justly as the "nick-song"

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or "nick-march" of the Royal Sussex Regiment—"Sussex by the Sea," which has quite taken its place as a sort of subsidiary regimental march by all Battalions of the Regiment. The history of "Sussex by the Sea" is briefly as follows:—In about 1907, Mr. W. Ward-Higgs, who lived at the time in Sussex, and who took a great interest in the County and the County Regiment, was moved to try to produce a marching song in praise of Sussex. "Sussex by the Sea" was the result. As soon as it was published the author sent copies to an officer of the 2nd Battalion who was connected with him by marriage, and the song was sung, in about September, 1908, by that officer at concerts at Ballykinlar Camp, where the battalion was at that time. The tune at once became popular, and has remained so ever since.

THE REGIMENTAL PAPER.

"THE ROUSSILLON GAZETTE."

The regimental paper, *The Roussillon Gazette*, was started by the 1st Battalion in 1910, and from that date, except for a brief interlude during the Great War, has appeared pretty regularly once a quarter up to the present day.

Until 1925 the Gazette was always printed in the Printers' Shop of the 1st Battalion, but in that year it was decided to make a change, so, beginning with the July number, the Gazette is now published from the Depot and printed in Chichester.

The subscription to *The Roussillon Gazette* is as follows: Annual, 4s. Quarterly, 1s.

Subscriptions are due in advance, and copies of the Gazette cannot be sent until the subscription has been paid. All contributions and correspondence, which the Editor is glad to receive, should be addressed to: The Editor, *Roussillon Gazette*, The Barracks, Chichester.

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Other Regimental Papers.

"The Pavonia Piffler."

During the voyage of the 1st Battalion from Malta to South Africa in February and March, 1900, on board the Hired Transport *Pavonia*, a hectographed paper of topical interest was produced on board, under the name of *The Pavonia Piffler*, Captain J. B. Wroughton being the Editor. It ran to five or six numbers, a file of which is preserved in the Officers' Mess at the Depot. This was quite an amusing effort, and served to while away an hour or two on that interminable voyage. The *Pavonia* was a rather out-of-date Cunarder, whose bottom was covered with a forest of seaweed. With frantic efforts she was able to steam somewhere between ten and eleven knots. However, she was a most comfortable ship, with a truly excellent commissariat, so no one would have minded much had we not been itching to get to the Cape "before the war was over." In the end we arrived in ample time, and, notwithstanding the six weeks' voyage, had nearly two and a half years in which to get used to South Africa.

"The Dug-out Despatch."

During the Great War—when in trenches in front of Bethune in the summer of 1915—the 2nd Battalion produced a trench paper under the title of *The Dug-out Despatch*, Lieutenants Dashwood and De Chair being the joint Editors. It was probably the first trench paper produced in France. Later it had imitators. This literary feat ran to three or four numbers, being produced on a hectograph. It was fully illustrated, and helped to promote to some extent the gaiety of the Battalion. A file of this paper also is preserved at the Depot.

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ROYAL SUSSEX REGIMENT OLD COMRADES ASSOCIATION.

The above Association was started in 1910 as The Royal Sussex Aid Society, the title being altered later to that which it now bears.

The following are the Rules of the Association: —

1.—The title of the Society to be the "Royal Sussex Regiment Old Comrades Association."

2.—The object of the Society to be: —

(a) The relief of ex-Royal Sussex soldiers who have served in any Battalion of the Regiment, and who are in a state of poverty through sickness, or other causes beyond their control.

(b) The obtaining of suitable employment for necessitous Royal Sussex men who are in a state of poverty on, or after their leaving the Army.

(c) The relief of widows of Royal Sussex men who are in a state of poverty, and in assisting, as far as possible, in maintaining and educating their children, or the orphan children of Royal Sussex men until they attain the age of 14 years.

3.—Membership: On and after 1st January, 1923, no man joining the Regiment will be entitled to relief unless he becomes a Life Member.

Men who joined the Regiment before 1st January, 1923, and who are still serving, must become Life Members in order to be considered for relief at any time after they have left the Service.

Life Membership, Eligibility of.

(1) A payment of 1s. a year for seven years.
(2) A payment of 5s. within a period of three years of joining.
(3) A payment of 7s. after three years' service.

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Should the Member have made any payments during the early part of his service, only the balance to make the amount up to 7s. to be subscribed.

Membership Cards to be made out for each recruit on joining the Depot. These will be forwarded to the Battalion to which the recruit is posted, and will be kept with his documents. The annual subscription to be entered and signed for by an officer on the card.

On becoming a Life Member, or on discharge, or on transfer to the Reserve, the card will be sent to the Depot and filed.

On becoming a Life Member, the Membership Card will be replaced by a "Life Membership Card," which will be sent to and kept by the Member concerned. A better type of Life Membership Card will be issued on payment of 6d. in lieu of the above, to those who desire it.

Should a man be discharged prematurely before he has completed his payments for Life Membership, his card will be sent to the Depot, his case investigated by the Committee, who will decide whether he be admitted to the Association as a Life Member.

4.—The Society to be managed by a General and Executive Committee composed as under, viz.:—

General Committee.

The Colonel of the Regiment, as Hon. President.
One Officer, one W.O., one N.C.O., and one Private from each Battalion in being, and of the Depot, Royal Sussex Regiment.
Three ex-W.Os., N.C.Os. or Privates of the Royal Sussex Regiment.
Three retired Officers of the Royal Sussex Regiment.

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O.C. Depot, Royal Sussex Regiment, as Chairman.
An Officer of the Royal Sussex Regiment serving at the Depot.
Three retired Officers of the Royal Sussex Regiment.
One W.O., one N.C.O., and three Privates of the Depot, Royal Sussex Regiment.
The Hon. Secretary and Hon. Treasurer.
Three members of the Executive Committee to form a quorum.

5.—The Society to be supported by:—

(a) Subscriptions and donations from past and present Officers and friends of the Regiment.
(b) Subscriptions from W.Os., N.C.Os. and men serving with any Battalion of the Royal Sussex Regiment.
(c) Contributions from Officers Commanding Battalions of the Royal Sussex Regiment from Institute Funds.
(d) Subscriptions from ex-Royal Sussex W.Os., N.C.Os. and men.

6.—The duties of the Executive Committee will be:—

(a) To decide cases for relief according to their merits, having due regard to the financial condition of the Society, and the general principles laid down in Rule 2.
(b) To decide on the amount of subscriptions or donations to be sent to those organizations which assist the Society, and benefit those enumerated under Rule 2, by grants of money, finding them employment, etc.

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(c) To have power, in exceptional circumstances, to assist deserving cases excluded under Rule 2.

(d) To arrange an Annual Dinner for Old Comrades of the Regiment.

(e) To make a rule and act on it pending its approval by the General Committee.

7.—The general principles of relief will be as far as possible to assist such cases that by timely relief can be helped to tide OVER TEMPORARY DISTRESS. Money will not be paid to men on tramp, who, if deserving, may be helped, by giving them railway tickets or orders for food, lodging, clothing, etc.

8.—The duties of the Hon. Treasurer and Hon. Secretary will be:—

To keep the books and accounts of the Society, and the minutes of all meetings.

To conduct the correspondence, make necessary enquiries as to circumstances of those applying for help, and to pay such sums as may be ordered by the Executive Committee.

To give immediate help to men calling locally, if such seems desirable, without waiting for a meeting.

To prepare, with the assistance of the Executive Committee, the Annual Report, and present the Accounts for audit (closed to December 31st), in time for their being printed and circulated prior to the Annual General Meeting.

To keep a list of men whom it is considered undesirable to help further.

9.—A General Meeting of the members of the Society will take place annually at Chichester as early in the year as possible.

10.—The Funds of the Society shall be invested in the name of the Officer Commanding the Depot,

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Royal Sussex Regiment. The accounts of the Society shall be audited annually in January by a chartered accountant appointed by the Executive Committee. Cheques shall be signed by O.C. the Depot and the Hon. Secretary.

The bankers of the Society shall be Messrs. Barclay & Co., Chichester Branch.

ROYAL SUSSEX OLD COMRADES' REUNION DINNER.

With reference to para. 6 (d) above, a Royal Sussex Old Comrades Reunion Dinner was first held at Brighton on June 30th, 1923, and a similar dinner has taken place each year since, and will, it is hoped, continue an annual event, as a rule in the last week of September.

It has become a most successful and popular function, over 800 attending that held on September 25th, 1926, under the chairmanship of the Colonel of the Regiment, the proceedings being enlivened by the excellent Band of the 1st Battalion from Bordon.

Brig.-General Osborn, the Colonel of the Regiment, is Chairman of the General and Working Committee, and Major R. Pearce the Honorary Secretary, whose untiring efforts and organizing ability have contributed largely to the success of this annual gathering and must gratefully be acknowledged. The offices of the Committee are at 3 North Street Quadrant, Brighton.

THE REGIMENTAL DEPOT.

Chichester Barracks, the "home" of the Royal Sussex Regiment, forms one of the most picturesque and interesting regimental headquarters in the country. The durability of the wooden and brick bungalows is remarkable. Condemned time and again, the very charm of the place has stayed the hand of the destroyer when it has come to the point of actually pulling it down. When the late Field-Marshal Sir Evelyn Wood was Quartermaster-

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General, he visited Chichester with the express purpose of passing final sentence on the barracks, but when he arrived he fell a victim to the charms of the old place, and exclaimed: "It would be a thousand pities to do away with it." Now that the barracks have been equipped with modern drainage and electric light, it is to be hoped that they have started on a new lease of life.

The early history of the barracks goes back as far as 1803, when the wooden huts were put up for the accommodation of French prisoners. Additions were made in 1854, 1861, 1874 and 1881. At one time it was an artillery station, signs of which may still be seen in the Gymnasium, which can be recognized as a converted gun-shed. The huts now occupied by the Quartermaster's stores and shops were originally troop stables.

The Militia Field outside the South Gate is so called from the fact that the Militia encamped there for their annual training, when the officers had a mess house in the town—now used as headquarters of the Sussex Yeomanry. This same Militia Field carries reminiscences of the old smuggling days, as two smugglers were hanged there in 1785 for a very brutal murder of an exciseman—as commemorated by a large stone still existent.

The "Green" in the middle of the barracks was originally a barrack square, and was laid down in grass, and the surrounding trees planted in about 1875 by a forgotten benefactor, who deserved to have had his name handed down.

Visiting teams are always loud in their praise of the fine ground provided for cricket, hockey, football, etc., on the "Green," which is nearly five acres in extent and is without rival among the depots of England.

Several objects of interest are preserved around the "Green"—trophies of the Great War; an Afridi millstone mounted as a sundial, reminiscence of the Afridi Campaign; a white marble Venetian cannon ball, a relic from Crete, etc.

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ROYAL SUSSEX CALENDAR.

JANUARY

5. 2nd Battalion entered Khyber Pass (Tirah Campaign), 1898.

7. First Colours presented to 3rd Regiment of Bengal European Infantry (now 2nd Battalion The Royal Sussex Regiment), 1857.

10. 1st Battalion presented by F.M. Sir Henry Wilson, G.C.B., Chief of the Imperial General Staff, with the " British Forces of the Rhine Championship Shield " and Cup for combined championship in Military Training and Sport, won in competition against nine other units. Cologne, 1921.

12. First Colours presented to 107th Regiment of Foot (now 2nd Battalion The Royal Sussex Regiment), 1865.

13. 2nd Battalion " 35th " took part in Battle of Merxem, 1814.

17. 1st Battalion took part in action of Abu Klea, Soudan, 1885.

21. A detachment of the 1st Battalion of the " 35th " formed part of the force (300 strong) which captured the island of Lagosta from the French, 1813.

22. Detachment of the " 35th " took part in action at Shooay Gain, Burmah, 1857.

26. The Earl of Donegall's Regiment (afterwards the " 35th ") took part in the repulse of the Spaniards (Defence of Gibraltar), 1705.

27. 1st Battalion repulsed night attack on their bivouac at Abram's Kraal (Boer War), 1902.

28. 2nd Battalion beat off attack made on Brickstacks at Cuinchy, 1915.

29. 1st Battalion arrived at Bordon from Northern Ireland, 1926.

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FEBRUARY

1. A detachment of the 1st Battalion of the " 35th " formed part of the force which captured the island of Curzola from the French, 1813.

2. 2nd Battalion 35th Foot took part in second capture of Merxem, Holland, 1814.

4. 35th Foot took part in capture of Martinique, 1762.

5. 3rd Regiment of Bengal European Infantry (now 2nd Battalion The Royal Sussex Regiment) took part in action at Deerpora (Indian Mutiny), 1858.

7. The Earl of Donegall's Regiment (afterwards the " 35th ") took part in the repulse of the Spaniards (Defence of Gibraltar), 1705.

12. The Grenadier and Light Companies of the " 35th " and in all other regiments were abolished, 1862.

13. Cadre of the 1st Battalion from India arrived at Aldershot, where it linked up with the Home Service details to form new 1st Battalion, 1920.

Lieut.-General Sir George Leigh Goldie, K.C.B., was appointed Colonel of the Regiment, 1861. He had commanded the Regiment as Lieut.-Colonel from 1833–35.

Detachment of the 1st Battalion 35th Foot took part in the capture of island of Pasco from the French, 1814; also the islands of Lessina and Brazza.

17. Detachment of 1st Battalion " 35th " (200 men) capitulated to the French Army of 6,000 strong, having held the Castle of Scylla since January 1st, 1808.

MARCH

4. The Colours of the 35th Foot, presented in 1834, were deposited in Chichester Cathedral, 1868.

6. 1st Battalion in skirmish at Bosch Kop (Boer War), 1902.

7. 2nd Battalion arrived at Rawal Pindi from Singapore, 1926.

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8. 2nd Battalion of the " 35th " took part in attack on Bergen-op-Zoom, Holland, 1814.

10. Battle of Neuve Chapelle, 2nd Battalion in reserve, 1915.

12. Earl of Donegall's Regiment (afterwards " 35th ") at capture of Guadaloupe, 1703.

17. Major-General Charles Lennox (afterwards 4th Duke of Richmond, K.G.) appointed Colonel of the Regiment, 1803. He had served in the Regiment for 32 years when he died in 1819.

20. 35th Foot took part at capture of Martinique, 1794. The 35th French Regiment were in the garrison of Fort Royal. (NOTE.—The 2nd Battalion were relieved by the 35th French Regiment of Infantry in the trenches in front of Loos in September, 1915.)

21. 1st and 2nd Battalions of the " 35th " took part in the capture of Alexandria from the Turks, 1807.

Commencement of great German offensive, 1918.

22. 1st Battalion of the " 35th " took part in siege of Santa Maura from the French, till April 16th, 1810.

27. Major-General Simcoe Baynes appointed Colonel of the Regiment, 1863.

28. Lieut.-General Sir W. F. Kelly, K.C.B., Colonel of the Regiment, died, 1914.

APRIL

4. 35th Foot took part in capture of St. Lucia, 1794. Earl of Donegall's Regiment at capture of Guadeloupe, 1703.

8. 1st Battalion of the " 35th " took part in action outside Rosetta, Egypt, 1807.

Major-General (Hon. Lieut.-General) J. S. Young. C.B., appointed Colonel of the Regiment, 1914, He joined the 35th Foot in 1877 and died January 5th, 1926.

10. 3rd Regiment of Bengal European Infantry became the 107th Regiment of Foot, 1861.

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14. " Gorges' Foot " (afterwards the " 35th ") took part in the Battle of Almanza (War of the Spanish Succession), 1707.

15. Brigadier-General Richard Gorges appointed Colonel of the Regiment, 1706.

16. 1st Battalion of the " 35th " took part in the capture of Santa Maura from the French (Capture of the Ionian Islands), 1810.

Cadre of 2nd Battalion arrived at Chichester, for demobilization, 1919.

18. German attack on Givenchy, 2nd Battalion in action south of Canal, 1918.

21. " 35th " took part in the capture of Guadaloupe, 1794.

1st and 2nd Battalions of the " 35th " took part in the Battle of El Hamid, Egypt, 1807.

22. 1st Battalion of the " 35th " took part in the retreat from Rosetta, Egypt, 1807.

23. Detachment of the " 35th " took part in retreat from Jugdespore to Arrah, 1858.

25. 2nd Battalion of the 35th Foot disbanded, 1817.

26. Detachment of the 1st Battalion of the " 35th " captured island of Lissa from the French, 1812.

28. " 35th " at Battle of Sillery, 1760. Grenadier Company had 54 killed and wounded out of 63 who went into action.

End of Defence of Gibraltar, after eight months' siege. Earl of Donegall's Regiment formed part of the Garrison, 1705.

Colonel the Earl of Donegall killed at the defence of Barcelona, 1706.

MAY

4. 1st Battalion in action at Welkom Farm (Boer War), 1900.

9. Battle of Aubers Ridge; 2nd and 5th Battalions suffered very heavily at the Rue du Bois, 1915.

10. 1st Battalion took part in action at Zand River (Boer War), 1900.

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Colonel (Hon. Brigadier-General) W. L. Osborn, C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., appointed Colonel of the Regiment, 1926.

16. 3rd Regiment of Bengal European Infantry (now 2nd Battalion The Royal Sussex Regiment) took part in the action at Shereghur Ghaut (Indian Mutiny), 1858.

29. 1st Battalion in action at Doornkop (Boer War), 1900.

Headquarters and five companies of the 2nd Battalion left Malta for Crete to suppress insurrection, 1905.

30. Grenadier and Light Companies of the 1st Battalion of the "35th" took part in capture of Ischia and Trocida from the French, 1809.

31. Occupation of Johannesburg: 1st Battalion present (Boer War), 1900.

JUNE

1. Earl of Donegall's Regiment (afterwards the "35th") placed on Establishment of Navy for sea service, 1702.

5. Occupation of Pretoria (Boer War); 1st Battalion present, 1900.

7. Battle of Messines Ridge began, 1917.

9. Major-General Richard Thomas Farren, C.B., appointed Colonel of the Regiment, 1879.

11. 1st Battalion in action at Diamond Hill (Boer War), 1900.

12. Second day of Battle of Diamond Hill.

14. "35th" took part in disarming the Brigade of four regiments of Native Infantry at Barrackpore, 1857. The bandsmen had to fall in with their companies, every man being wanted. (Indian Mutiny.)

15. Major-General Sir Richard Downes Jackson, K.C.B., appointed Colonel of the Regiment, 1840.

17. The "35th" took part in Battle of Bunker's Hill (American War of Independence), 1775; 69 of the Grenadier and Light Companies were killed and wounded.

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18. Battle of Waterloo, 1815; 2nd Battalion of the 35th Foot in reserve at Turbige, near Hal.

19. Earl of Donegall's Regiment (afterwards the "35th") embarked on expedition to Cadiz, 1702.

23. Grenadier Company 35th Foot relieved the Fort at Berhampore, 1857. (Indian Mutiny.)

26. The "35th" took part in the action at Scotch Plains (American War of Independence), 1777.

27. New Colours presented at Singapore to 2nd Battalion (late 107th Foot), by H.E. The Governor, C.-in-C. of the Straits Settlements, to replace those presented to 107th Foot, on January 12th, 1867, at Allahabad, 1924.

28. Arthur, Earl of Donegall first appointed Colonel of the Regiment, which he raised at his own expense, and as a special mark of favour from King William III it received orange facings, 1701.

1st Battalion in skirmish at Mooifontein (Boer War), 1901.

JULY

1. The 35th and 107th Regiments of Foot abolished and made into one Regiment as the 1st and 2nd Battalions of the Royal Sussex Regiment, 1881.

Battle of the Somme began, 1916.

3. 1st Battalion in skirmish at Jammersburg Drift (Boer War), 1901.

4. 1st Battalion of the "35th" took part in the Battle of Maida, in which the French were defeated, 1806.

6. 3rd Regiment of Bengal European Infantry (now 2nd Battalion The Royal Sussex Regiment) took part in action at Sussea (Indian Mutiny), 1857.

7. Detachment of the 35th Foot took part in action near Arrah, 1858. (Indian Mutiny.)

8. The County title of the 35th Foot was changed from "Dorsetshire" to "Sussex," 1805.

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10. German attack on Nieuport ; 2nd Battalion held trenches on left bank of Yser, 1917.

11. Major-General Sir George Henry Frederick Berkeley, K.C.B., appointed Colonel of the Regiment, 1845. He joined it in 1805. Died 1857.

12. Capt. Richard Trimen died, aged 89, 1925. Joined the 35th as an Ensign, 1855 ; served through the Indian Mutiny, retiring in 1871. In 1873 published " A Historical Memoir of the 35th Royal Sussex Regiment of Foot," and by his will bequeathed to the 1st Battalion an interleaved copy containing a great mass of additional material.

21. New Colours presented to 35th Foot at Dublin, 1834, by Lady Vivian, wife of the Lieutenant-General Commanding in Ireland. A set of 35th Colours is preserved at Dunnikier House, Fife, the seat of the Oswald family, but it is believed that they were never dedicated or taken into use. Presumably they were a new set made for the Regiment, but before they could be presented the order conferring the title " Royal " upon the Regiment was issued, thus rendering the orange colour obsolete.

23. 1st Battalion took part in attack on Retief's Nek (Boer War), 1900.

2nd Battalion took part in attack near Pozières (Battle of the Somme), 1916.

27. The " 35th " took part in the capture of Louisburg from the French, 1758.

Colonel Charles Otway appointed Colonel of the Regiment, 1717 ; he died in 1764.

30. The " 35th " took part in the storming of Moro Fort, Havannah, Cuba, 1762.

AUGUST

1. 2nd Battalion of the " 35th " took part in the action before Flushing, Holland, 1809.

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The Grenadier and Light Companies of the "35th" took part in disarming the 11th Irregular Cavalry and the 63rd Native Infantry at Berhampore, 1857. (Indian Mutiny.)

4. War declared against Germany; 2nd Battalion at Woking, 1914.

"35th" part of the garrison at the defence of Fort William Henry, Canada, 1757.

7. 2nd Battalion of the "35th" in severe action outside Flushing, 1809.

Lieut.-Colonel Francis Selwyn Campbell died, 1921. Lieut.-Colonel Campbell was born in 1850, joined the 35th Foot in 1870 and retired in 1892, having taken part in the Egyptian Campaign of 1882, and the Soudan Expedition of 1884-5. By his will made a few days before his somewhat sudden death, Lieut.-Col. Campbell left £2,500 to the 1st Battalion, £1,000 to the 2nd Battalion, and £1,000 to the Depot "for the purpose of encouraging military efficiency and sport."

9. The "35th" marched out of Fort William Henry with the full honours of war, and was treacherously attacked by North American Indians, allies of the French, 1757.

10. Colonel Henry Fletcher appointed Colonel of the Regiment, 1764, after six years' service as Lieutenant-Colonel. He died in 1803, after 48 years' service in the Regiment.

11. 35th Foot took part in capture of Havannah, 1762.

13. 2nd Battalion disembarked at Le Havre, 1914.

14. 3rd Regiment of Bengal European Infantry (now 2nd Battalion The Royal Sussex Regiment) took part in the action at Chalhoolie (Indian Mutiny), 1857.

16. 2nd Battalion of the "35th" took part in the capture of Flushing (Walcheren Expedition, 1809).

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2nd Battalion took part in attack on High Wood (Battle of the Somme), 1916.

17. 2nd Battalion repulsed German counter-attack on position taken on previous day (Battle of the Somme), 1916.

20. 3rd Regiment of Bengal European Infantry took part in action at Maum Sing Ka Bagh (Indian Mutiny), 1857.

2nd Battalion attacked near High Wood; fighting strength of Battalion reduced to 4 officers and 150 other ranks (Battle of the Somme), 1916.

21. The Grenadier and Light Companies of the "35th" took part in the relief of the Fort of Rasserah, 1858. (Indian Mutiny.)

23. Battle of Mons; 2nd Battalion in reserve, 1914.

24. 3rd Regiment of Bengal European Infantry (now 2nd Battalion The Royal Sussex Regiment) took part in the action at Allyghur (Indian Mutiny), 1857.

2nd Battalion sailed from Constantinople for Malta, 1923.

27. "35th" took part in the Battle of Brooklyn, 1776.

28. General The Duke of Richmond, K.G., Colonel of "35th" died, 1819.

31. The "35th" received the County title of "The Dorsetshire Regiment," 1782, and so remained until 1805.

SEPTEMBER

4. 1st Battalion of the "35th" took part in the capture of Valetta, Malta, from the French, 1800.

5. 2nd Battalion of the 35th Foot took part in review of 60,000 British troops at Paris, 1815.

8. The "35th" formed part of the force that captured Montreal (War with the French in Canada), 1760.

9. 2nd Battalion took part in attack on High Wood (Battle of the Somme), 1916.

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10. 2nd Battalion (advanced guard to 2nd Brigade) took part in action at Priez, Battle of the Marne, 1914.

2nd Battalion sailed from Malta for Singapore, 1923.

13. Capture of Barcelona. The Earl of Donegall's Regiment (afterwards the " 35th ") formed part of the allied force (War of the Spanish Succession) 1705.

The " 35th " took part in the action on the Heights of Abraham, Quebec, 1759. For its defeat of the French Royal Roussillon Regiment at the Battle of Quebec was for many years allowed to wear in the headdress a white plume such as was worn by the Roussillon Regiment. In memory of this the Regiment was granted permission, in July, 1881, to adopt as its badge the white Roussillon plume.

2nd Battalion crossed the Aisne at Bourg, 1914.

14. 2nd Battalion were heavily engaged near Troyon Chemin des Dames (Battle of the Aisne), 1914.

Lieut.-General Henry Renny, C.S.I., appointed Colonel of the Regiment, 1875.

18. 2nd Battalion took part in attack on German line, East of Vermand, 1918.

19. 1st Battalion of the " 35th " took part in the Battle of Bergen against the French (Holland), 1799. Ensign Renton saved the Colours from attack by three French officers, killing one and wounding the other two. The 2nd Battalion of the 35th were in reserve.

24. 2nd Battalion took part in attack north of Gricourt. During the German counter-attack which followed, " A " Company advanced from the position it was holding and drove back the Germans with the bayonet, 1918.

25. Battle of Loos commenced ; 2nd Battalion attacked and captured the " Chalk Pit," 1915. Sergt. Wells, who was killed in this action, was awarded the Victoria Cross for gallantry.

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26. Major-General John Leslie, K.H., appointed Colonel of the Regiment, 1857.

27. 2nd Battalion took part in successful attack on German trenches near Eaucourt l'Abbaye (Battle of the Somme), 1916.

28. Commencement of the Black Mountain Expedition, in which the 2nd Battalion took part, 1888.

OCTOBER

1. Four-company system inaugurated in 2nd Battalion, 1913.

2. Colours presented to 107th Foot in 1865, and until lately carried by 2nd Battalion, laid up in St. George's Chapel in Chichester Cathedral, 1924.

The flank companies of the 1st and 2nd Battalions of the " 35th " took part in the Battle of Egmont against the French (Holland), 1799.

1st Battalion of the " 35th " took part in the capture of the island of Zante from the French, 1809.

4. 1st Battalion of the " 35th " took part in the capture of the islands of Cephalonia and Cerigo, 1809.

6. " 35th " took part in the defence of Fort Matilda, Guadaloupe, 1794, which ended this day.

9. Lieut.-General Sir John Oswald, K.C.B., appointed Colonel of the Regiment, 1819. He joined it in 1791, and died in 1840.

10. 3rd Regiment of Bengal European Infantry (now 2nd Battalion The Royal Sussex Regiment) took part in the Battle of Agra (Indian Mutiny), 1857.

2nd Battalion of the " 35th " at the defence of Winctal, Holland, 1799.

14. The " 35th " took part in the capture of Havannah from the French, 1762.

The 35th present at the defence of Fort Matilda, 1794.

17. Headquarters Wing of the " 35th " took part in action near Arrah, 1858. (Indian Mutiny.)

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18. Headquarters of the "35th" at capture of Jugdespore, 1858. (Indian Mutiny.)

19. First Battle of Ypres began, 1914.

20. Headquarters of the "35th" took part in action at Peroo, and in pursuit of the enemy for 35 miles, 1858. (Indian Mutiny.)

21. In pursuit of enemy all day, 1858. (Indian Mutiny.)

23. Capitulation of Trieste by the French; two companies of the 1st Battalion of the "35th" took part in the siege of that city, 1813, and at capture of Genoa in April, 1814.

24. 1st Battalion took part in action at Ospoort (Boer War), 1901.

28. The "35th" took part in Battle of White Plains (American War of Independence), 1776. Lieut.-Colonel Carr killed and 67 killed and wounded.

3rd Regiment of Bengal European Infantry (now 2nd Battalion The Royal Sussex Regiment) took part in the action of Futtipore Sikree (Indian Mutiny), 1857.

29. Memorial to officers and other ranks of the Royal Sussex Regiment who lost their lives in the South African War, 1900–02, unveiled at Brighton by the Marquis of Abergavenny, K.G., Lord Lieutenant of Sussex, 1904.

NOVEMBER

4. Crossing of canal lock south of Catillon. Lieut.-Colonel D. G. Johnson, V.C., D.S.O., M.C., (South Wales Borderers), Commanding 2nd Battalion The Royal Sussex Regiment, was awarded the Victoria Cross for gallantry in this action, 1918.

11. 2nd Battalion took part in operations north of Passchendaele, 1917.

Armistice declared, 1918.

Dedication of St. George's Chapel in Chichester Cathedral, restored and beautified as a War Memorial to all ranks of the Royal Sussex

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Regiment and Sussex Yeomanry who laid down their lives in the Great War, 1921.

15. 3rd Regiment of Bengal European Infantry (now 2nd Battalion The Royal Sussex Regiment) raised, 1853.

15. First Battle of Ypres; 2nd Battalion went back into rest at Hazebrouck after having been in action continuously in various parts of the line since October 25th, 1914.

18. Small detachment of "35th" took part in the procession at the funeral of the Duke of Wellington, 1852.

19. 3rd Regiment of Bengal European Infantry (now 2nd Battalion The Royal Sussex Regiment) took part in the action at Kutchla Ghaut (Indian Mutiny), 1857.

22. First Battle of Ypres ended, 1914.

24 Headquarters of the 35th Foot took part in night attack on enemy's camp, 1858. (Indian Mutiny.)

29. 1st Battalion took part in action at Platberg (Boer War), 1901.

11th Battalion The Australian Military Forces, in in accordance with Army Order 427 of 1925, became affiliated to the Royal Sussex Regiment, 1925.

DECEMBER

2. 3rd Regiment of Bengal European Infantry (now 2nd Battalion The Royal Sussex Regiment) took part in the action at Fattiabad (Indian Mutiny), 1857.

14. 3rd Regiment of Bengal European Infantry (now 2nd Battalion The Royal Sussex Regiment) took part in the action at Gungeree (Indian Mutiny), 1857.

15. The "35th" took part in the defence of the post at Vigie (capture of St. Lucia from the French), 1778.

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16. 1st Battalion entertained to dinner in the Dome at Brighton by the County of Sussex, the Mayor of Brighton (Alderman J. G. Blaker) in the chair, to commemorate the quartering in the County of a Battalion of the Royal Sussex Regiment after an interval of 78 years, 1896.

18. Earl of Donegall's Regiment (afterwards the "35th") landed at Gibraltar for its defence, 1704.

3rd Regiment of Bengal European Infantry (now 2nd Battalion The Royal Sussex Regiment) took part in the action at Putialee (Indian Mutiny), 1857.

21. 2nd Battalion joined Tirah Expeditionary Force at Jamrud, 1897.

2nd Battalion crossed Alachi Pass into Bazaar Valley (Tirah Campaign), 1897.

26. New Colours presented to the "35th" at Meerut, India, by Lady Canning, wife of the Governor-General, 1859. These Colours are still (1927) borne by the 1st Battalion.

27. 2nd Battalion fought rearguard action against Afridis near Burg-Bazaar Valley, 1897.

30. "35th" took part in capture of St. Lucia, 1778.

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